

Siemens to build power plant in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — The German engineering giant Siemens agreed Sunday to build a gas fuelled power station on Iran's Qeshm Island in the Gulf, the official Islamic Republic News Agency said. The agreement came despite a call by an Iranian newspaper to place Germany on a trade blacklist of a dispute over an uncompleted nuclear power plant. Another report said Iran had begun talks with China on building other nuclear power stations. The Iranian agency said a letter of understanding on the Qeshm plant was signed in Tehran by a top Siemens executive and Ali Shams Ardakani, the head of the Qeshm Free Trade Authority. The value of the deal was not disclosed. The island is the site of a burgeoning free trade zone, part of President Hashemi Rafsanjani's efforts to open his country's economy to the outside world. The 1,400 megawatt, gas fuelled power station is scheduled to be in partial operation by the autumn of 1994, the agency said in a dispatch monitored in Cyprus.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

U.S., others now taking Iraqi refugees

RIYADH (AP) — The United States and other nations have begun accepting some of the 30,000 Iraqi refugees who have been harboured in Saudi Arabia since the Gulf war, diplomats said Sunday. These are mainly Iraqi Shiite Muslims — men, women and children — who fled a Shiite rebellion in southern Iraq after the Gulf war. But they also include soldiers who were taken as prisoners of war during the Gulf war and refused to be repatriated through the International Red Cross. Some 30,000 refugees have been held in two camps in northeastern Saudi Arabia close to the Iraqi border.

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'No Jordanian executed in Iraq'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian officials Sunday denied that any Jordanian businessman was executed in Iraq as part of a campaign against profiteers. The officials were commenting on rumours that two Jordanians were among those executed (see page 2).

Pakistan premier calls off Kabul trip

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif called off a planned trip to Kabul after bomb and rocket attacks on Saturday in the Afghan capital in which a general was killed. A spokesman for Mr. Sharif said Sunday's visit to Kabul for talks with President Burhanuddin Rabbani and members of Afghanistan's Islamic government, had been cancelled. No fresh date for the talks had been set, he added. Mr. Rabbani is due to arrive in Islamabad on Aug. 12 for a four-day visit. Official Kabul Radio said Major-General Gulam Rasool Parwani, deputy chief of the national security department, his driver and a bodyguard were killed instantly when their car exploded in central Kabul. No one has claimed responsibility for the blast.

U.N. guard shot at in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — An unidentified gunman shot at a U.N. guard in front of a Baghdad hotel on Sunday in the latest of a series of problems faced by staff of the world body in Iraq, U.N. officials said. One bullet landed close to the guard, a Czechoslovak, in front of the Palestine hotel, where some U.N. staff live, the officials added. The guard was not hurt. "We believe that someone intentionally shot at the guard," one U.N. official told Reuters, adding that the shooting was the latest of a series of security "difficulties" for the guards.

Chinese find 'black box' of airliner

BEIJING (R) — Investigators filtering through the wreckage of a Chinese airliner which crashed and killed 106 people have found the plane's "black box" but say it is too early to guess at the cause of the accident, officials said on Sunday. The Russian-made Yak-42 carrying 116 passengers and 10 crew slammed to earth in a ball of flames shortly after take-off from the southern city of Nanjing on Friday in the worst Chinese air crash since 1990.

Independent Croatia holds first elections

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) — Croatians voted Sunday in their first general elections since winning independence from Serb-led Yugoslavia, and their nationalist president said he was confident of victory. "There is no doubt we will win," President Franjo Tudjman of the ruling Croatian Democratic Union said while casting his ballot Sunday morning in Zagreb, the Croatian capital. He and another seven candidates were running for the presidency and about 25 parties were competing for 120 seats in the lower house of Croatia's parliament.

Iran denies troops fighting in Sudan

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran has denied a report by an Italian missionary group that Iranian troops were fighting alongside the Sudanese army in the 9-year-old civil war in southern Sudan. The denial from a Foreign Ministry spokesman was reported by the official Islamic Republic News Agency. Expanding relations between Iraq and Sudan have alarmed Western countries, which accuse Iran of trying to export its fundamentalist Islamic revolution. Western intelligence sources have said the Iranians have been setting up bases in Sudan for fundamentalist guerrilla groups. Iran already had denied it was providing military aid to Sudan or that it was helping train its armed forces. The spokesman termed as "baseless" the report from the Italian group, Missionari Combombiani. He said there were no Iranian troops based in Sudan.

Jordan helps Palestinians set up local police force

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan is helping Palestinian leaders in the West Bank and Gaza in drawing up a local police security plan to administer the occupied territories during a transitional period of autonomy that Arab-Israeli talks could result in the coming months.

A senior Jordanian official confirmed Sunday that a five-man Palestinian team headed by Faisal Hussein, overall leader of the Palestinian delegation to the peace negotiations, was holding talks with Jordanian security officials to chart strategy, which, among other things, calls for establishing a police force.

"Yes, there is a Palestinian team here to discuss security arrangements applied here in Jordan and the possibility of benefiting from our legislation as well as our expertise," the senior official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told the Jordan Times.

According to the official, Palestinian negotiators had asked Jordan to allow four or five men who could be in charge of local security in the occupied territories during the possible interim self-governance there to discuss Jordanian legislation with the Kingdom's security officials.

Another official told the Jordan Times that the five-man team was in Jordan "as part of the bilateral (Jordanian-Palestinian) coordination."

He said that the final "framework of this cooperation has not yet taken shape but the idea is definitely there."

"We think it is a good idea to start preparation for interim self-governance from now and we are pleased to extend all facilities available to us to the Palestinians," said the official, who also requested anonymity.

He confirmed that the cooperation may include training of a Palestinian police force but said there was still no formal plan of how this would take place.

Another Palestinian delegation, the official confirmed, would also meet with financial officials in the Kingdom to acquaint themselves with the system applied here.

"They would be briefed on the tax and fees systems in preparation for the next stage in the Middle East peace talks," the source explained.

Mr. Hussein told Reuters Saturday that "the two sides are discussing arrangements for training and future ties between Jordan and a Palestinian police force as part of preparations for the interim self-governing period."

Although Reuters quoted political sources as saying that the Palestinians wanted up to 20,000 men to have a three-month training in Jordan in basic policing, Jordanian officials said the talks were in their infant stages and no agreements had been reached.

Sources close to the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination efforts said that this week's meetings were aimed at working out technicalities and details, but "there is no clear procedure as such to lay down."

A Palestinian negotiator also confirmed that the idea of a police force was being discussed but did not give any further details.

The Associated Press quoted Efraim Sneh, a former military governor for the occupied territories and legislator from Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's Labour Party, as saying that he was aware that such a plan was being considered.

In response to a report by the Israeli daily Haaretz which said many candidates for the Palestinian force would be members of the mainstream Fatah movement, Mr. Sneh said that there were issues "requiring clarification ... there is no doubt that the background and past of these people will require serious review."

He said the estimate of a 20,000-member force seemed high. But he noted that the U.S.-brokered Camp David accords provided for a Palestinian police force under autonomy.

"We must remember there is significance and an advantage to having law enforcement in these areas, and it is preferable that it be done by a local police," Mr. Sneh told Israeli army radio.

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Two Arabs named deputy ministers in Rabin cabinet

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's cabinet on Sunday named two Israeli Arabs deputy ministers, making them the highest-ranking Arabs in the government in 19 years.

Nawaf Massalha, 40, of Mr. Rabin's Labour Party, is a deputy health minister, and Walid Zaidi, 53, of the left-wing Meretz faction, is assigned temporarily to the prime ministry. They were among the nine deputy ministers appointed Sunday.

Mr. Zaidi said he hoped to contribute to Middle East peace-making as well as improve the lives of Israeli Arabs.

"I feel I have been given a serious challenge, and if I am delegated some real authority, and I am not just a token, there is a lot I can do," he said in a telephone interview.

About 900,000 of Israel's five million citizens are Arab. Arabs have served in parliament since the first elections in 1949. But because of the Arab-Israeli conflict, none has ever been a cabinet minister.

The last deputy minister was Abdul Aziz Zoabi of the socialist Mapam Party who served in the health ministry in 1973.

Mr. Massalha, a native of Tel

Aviv, joined the Labour Party while attending Tel Aviv University. He works for the Histadrut labour union and was deputy chairman of the last parliament.

Mr. Zaidi is from Taiibe, northeast of Tel Aviv. He has a master's in sociology from Jerusalem's Hebrew University, was a high school principal and also owns a farm.

He said he hoped to eventually be named a deputy agriculture minister so he can help negotiate the sharing of water rights between Israel and the Palestinians.

"Then I can make my contribution as an Arab, a Palestinian and an Israeli," he said.

Asked if he identified both as Israeli and Palestinian, Mr. Zaidi replied: "Can becoming a deputy minister change one's identity?"

Arab votes helped Labour win the election. The coalition controls 62 of the parliament's 120 votes. Another five members of Arab parties back the majority from outside the coalition.

Agriculture Minister Yair Tsaaban said his Meretz party would push for Sadek to serve as deputy interior minister.

The interior ministry oversees citizenship status and a wide range of decisions affecting the rights of Israel's Arabs.

Turkey says river waters will not be used as pressure

DAMASCUS (AP) — Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin said Sunday his country would not use the waters of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers as a weapon to pressure Syria or Iraq.

He described his discussions with President Hafez Al Assad and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa as "constructive, positive and frank."

A recent statement by Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel apparently denying Syria's right to the river waters had caused a great concern and anger at all levels in Syria.

But Mr. Cetin said Mr. Demirel's statements were misinterpreted by foreign news media.

"Turkey will not use water as a weapon or an instrument of pressure against its neighbours, notably Syria," he told reporters after daylong talks with Syrian officials.

Mr. Sharaa, in a brief statement after Mr. Cetin's meeting with Mr. Assad, said the Turkish side had "reaffirmed its commitment" to a 1987 agreement under which it provides Syria with more than 500 cubic metres per second of the Euphrates waters.

Diplomats, who asked not to

be identified, said the two sides agreed to call a meeting of a committee grouping Iraq, Syria and Turkey in the near future.

The official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said Mr. Cetin's talks with Mr. Sharaa focused on "deepening relations between the two countries in all sectors on the basis of genuine cooperation and mutual confidence."

In his remarks, Mr. Demirel had claimed his country has rights to all waters of the two rivers before they cross into the two Arab countries.

"These cross-border rivers are ours to the very point at which they cross the border," Mr. Demirel said on the occasion of the inauguration of the giant Ataturk Dam.

While Syrians worry about insufficient water flow, Turkey's major concern is the Kurdish attacks along its southeastern borders.

Turkey and Syria share a 900-kilometre border.

An outlawed guerrilla group, the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), stages hit and run attacks on civilian settlements and military posts near the Syrian and Iraqi borders.

Palestinian shot dead in Gaza

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli soldiers killed a Palestinian in a two-hour chase and shoot-out that also left three soldiers wounded Sunday in the occupied Gaza Strip.

The army said Osama Mohammad Al Najjar, 22, was able to put up a fierce battle because he was once a Palestinian policeman working for the Israeli occupation authorities.

"In the course of his job he was heavily trained with weapons," said Brigadier General Yom Tov Samiya, commander of army forces in Gaza. The army reported two of the injured soldiers were in critical condition with gunshot wounds to the head.

Also Sunday, a Palestinian woman, Hanan 'Eid, 24, was fatally shot in the head when a Palestinian activist's gun discharged accidentally as he cleaned it, reports said. The army confirmed the death in Gaza's Rafah district.

Najar, who quit the police early in the Palestinian uprising, was armed with a Kalashnikov sub-machine gun when soldiers tracked him down in the town of Khan Yunis before dawn Sunday, Israeli Radio reported.

Soldiers chased Najar and a group of activists into houses after they split up when spotted. The army said several of his companions were arrested.



UPSET VICTORY: Jamaican-born British runner Linford Christie crosses the finish line to win the men's 100 metres in the Barcelona Olympics on Saturday. At right is Dennis Mitchell of the U.S. who took the bronze (see page 6).

Israel agrees to Aug. 24 meeting

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel has approved the U.S. invitation to resume Middle East peace talks in Washington on Aug. 24, the first meeting since a Labour government took power, a government official said on Sunday.

"The date of the invitation was set in coordination with the Israeli government and it has been approved," the official, who spoke on condition he not be identified, told Reuters.

In Damascus, officials and diplomats said Syria will also take part in the next round of talks.

They said Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa had received invitations to the talks.

In Amman Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber said Jordan had received an invitation to the talks and a top Paestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official said Palestinians in the occupied territories had also received one.

The invitation to Israel also noted the resumption of the multilateral negotiations, the Jerusalem Post said. The committee on regional water resources in Washington, Sept. 15-16; and the committee on regional economic development is to meet Oct. 26-29 at a still undecided location.

An Israeli official said that the participation of a European Community (EC) representative in the arms control talks is still being reviewed. During this committee's first round, Israel did not agree to allow the EC representation.

Iraq defiant on anniversary of invasion as allies talk tough

Combined agency despatches

ON THE SECOND anniversary of the invasion of Kuwait, Iraqi media repeated that the emirate is part of Iraq and said Iraqis would continue to demand its recapture.

The calls were echoed by Iraq's state-run newspapers (see page 2). "On this day in 1990, His Excellency the leader president led the greatest historic epic in the contemporary history of Iraq, one that was crowned with immortal victory with the entry of our valiant armed forces into Kuwait," the radio said.

It said the then-deposed Al Sabah family conspired with the United States and "stabbed their poison dagger in our backs."

The anniversary of the invasion of Kuwait passed quietly Sunday

in Gulf Arab capitals except for media commentaries deploring "the blackest day in Arab modern history."

The underlying concern was for the Arab World that had been splintered by the invasion.

"This day is the anniversary of the Iraqi brutal aggression on sister Kuwait, that base aggression that felled a divisive blow on Arab solidarity," said the official Saudi Press Agency in Riyadh.

The commentary was read on state-run television with the backdrop of Gulf war archive reels. But otherwise, the August calm of torpid summer heat contrasted with the helter of the first anniversary, which passed under skies blanketed with black smog from Kuwait's then burning oil fields.

Then, Kuwait and the Gulf

neighbours were busy putting their houses in order as 700,000 American and other allied troops were redeploying after Operation Desert Storm.

Almost every daily in the Gulf capitals gave banner headlines to the 2,400 American troops the United States was deploying to Kuwait for joint manoeuvres. Prominence was also given to Kuwaiti Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah's anniversary speech affirming his forces were on the alert.

U.S. officials have said that the exercise had been planned for September, but was moved up because of the tension with Iraq over its refusal to comply with U.N. weapons inspectors.

But when the inspections were

(Continued on page 5)

'Iraq, Turkey doing booming oil business'

LONDON (AP) — Iraq is floating U.N. sanctions by secretly selling oil to neighbouring Turkey, the Mail on Sunday newspaper reported Sunday.

"Hundreds of thousands of gallons are being shipped across the Iraqi-Turkish border" to earn vital Western currency, the London-based tabloid said.

"At one stage, 50,000 barrels of oil products, mostly diesel fuel, were crossing the border every day."

The newspaper said its reporter Hugh Muir and photographer Keith Waldegrave had witnessed first-hand the massive cross-border traffic in oil. It said Baghdad "is actively encouraging the conversion of hundreds of lorries in Turkey."

Each carries huge and empty 9,000-litre tanks into Iraq. There the drivers part with vital Western currency and then ferry fuel back across the border, where local businessmen sell it for up to 400 per cent profit.

The newspaper said the lorry drivers make the run from the Habur border checkpoint in Turkey to the Iraqi towns of Zakho, Dohuk and Mosul, "where intelligence sources believe (the) regime is controlling the main refinery output."

It said the trade "first came to Western intelligence agencies' notice 10 weeks ago when spy satellites picked up the sharp increase in traffic across the mountainous frontier."

But the U.S. State Department

and the British Foreign Office are reluctant to admit the extent of the trade.

Mr. Muir wrote that on Saturday he and Mr. Waldegrave "travelled the 400-kilometre supply road from Diyarbakir to the Habur border checkpoint, where Iraq and Turkey are separated by two sets of customs booths and (400 metres) of tarmac."

"We saw at least 100 lorries with special tanks (for oil). Customs sources told me that the operation had thrived over the past four months."

"One driver told me that only days ago he had been part of a humper-to-humper convoy, stretching (11 kilometres), en route to Iraq."

Juxtapositioned candidacies promise lively Madaba polls

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

THE AUG. 18 by-election in Madaba to fill a vacant seat in the Lower House of Parliament is promising to be not only crucial and politically indicative but also very cohesive, particularly that only three candidates are vying to succeed the late Deputy Ahmad Qteish Al Azaideh.

In the 1989 elections an average of eight candidates ran for every seat in the 80-seat Lower House.

Observers of the Madaba contest say the race will be very tight but believe that the two non-religious candidates have a good chance of breaking the "Islamic hold" on the once-predominantly Christian town.

Madaba has three seats in the House. They were won by

two Muslim Brotherhood candidates and one Christian candidate backed by the Islamists in the 1989 elections.

Today Madaba has 33,874 registered voters who must pick up their voter cards by Aug. 10. Those who do not will not be allowed to vote.

In 1989 the number of registered voters was 35,135. Of these only 58 per cent, or some 21,000, voted.

Two of the candidates, former government official Fawaz Abu Ghanem and former communist Abdul Hafith Shakhaneh, also ran in 1989 and received 1,600 and 600 respectively out of 3,000 Christian votes, according to members of the municipal council in Madaba.

Thus two thirds of Madaba's Christian voters went to one of the two secular candidates currently fielded.

Local observers believe that

if the Aug. 18 election also takes 3,000 Christians to the polls, the 800 remaining votes will go to either Mr. Abu Ghanem or Mr. Shakhaneh.

"The Christian population will not vote for a fundamentalist Muslim," said one observer of the chances of Muslim Brotherhood candidate Mohammad Mosalam Khreibat.

Being a traditional Jordanian town, politics of Madaba are heavily influenced by family and tribal connections.

The Madaba district is divided into two main tribal areas. One is known as Balgawieh and the other Hamida.

The larger of the two is the Balgawieh which has some 14,000 voters while the Hamida clan has 6,200 voters. In addition to the tribes, which are exclusively Jordanian, there are some 2,800 Palesti-

nians from a refugee camp inside Madaba who are registered voters.

Deputy Azaideh was from the Balgawieh tribe. There are indications that the Balgawieh people feel that only another member of their tribe should replace the late deputy. Both Mr. Abu Ghanem and Mr. Khreibat belong to the tribe and observers believe that one of them is the most likely to win the election.

Mr. Azaideh was a member of the Muslim Brotherhood and the only Balgawieh to sit in Parliament. He got the maximum number of votes in the 1989 elections in the district with over 6,000 votes.

The Muslim Brotherhood candidate for the Aug. 18 polls is also from the Balgawieh tribe. The Brotherhood, sensitive to tribal affiliations in politics, fielded one Bani Hamida

candidate and one Balgawieh in the last elections. Both won.

Muslim Brotherhood Deputy Abdul Hafeeth Al Alawi currently represents not only the Brotherhood but also the Bani Hamida tribe in the House. Mr. Shakhaneh is a relative of Deputy Alawi and is expected to pick up some of the same family and tribal support that his relative and ideological opponent picked up in 1989.

"The Brotherhood, like some other political parties, is also careful to consider traditional tribal affiliations when it chooses its candidates," said a supporter of Mr. Abu Ghanem, a former under-secretary of the Ministry of Information.

But secular political activists in the Madaba district say they

(Continued on page 5)

Iraq promises tougher stand against the West

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq's leaders, lashing out two years after their ill-fated invasion of Kuwait, have pledged a tougher stand against the West, saying their army and people are ready and able to crush U.S. and Israeli plots.

Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan, speaking after a three-week standoff with the U.N. over weapons inspection, said in remarks published on Saturday that the mother of all battles — Iraq's term for the Gulf war — was continuing.

"Criminal (U.S. President George) Bush is still releasing threats against our people and country, by this he shows his weakness and his defeat before the steadfastness of the Iraqis led by President Saddam Hussein," Mr. Ramadan told a Baath Party meeting in Hilla, 110 kilometres south of Baghdad.

"Iraq's positions will be stronger and more solid in confronting any new decision or aggression aimed at harming Iraq's dignity or national sovereignty," he added, according to the official INA news agency.

Iraq halted the standoff, after which U.N. arms inspectors searched the Ministry of Agriculture and emerged empty-handed, as a "suspicious victory," saying it dictated the terms of entry.

Prime Minister Muhammad Hamza Al Zubaidi, in remarks carried by the official Iraqi press on Saturday, told members of the ruling Baath Party they were the frontline against "the fiercest conspiracy now being woven by the U.S. and Israel against Iraq and its people."

Defence Minister Ali Hassan Majied, who accompanied Mr. Zubaidi to the northern oil centre of Kirkuk on Friday, said every Iraqi had a duty to defend the homeland.

"Our people and the armed

forces are now, more than at any other time, well prepared and are more capable of standing against challenges and crushing the Imperialist-Zionist conspiracies against our dear homeland."

The remarks, in an area taken over by Kurdish rebels during a short-lived post-Gulf war rebellion, coincided with fresh U.S. troops movements in the region.

Washington said on Friday it would send an extra 2,400 troops to Kuwait for war games despite the peaceful resolution of the standoff with Iraq over arms inspections.

Diplomats in Baghdad say the government has a stronger grip on power than at any time since a U.S.-led multinational coalition ejected its troops from Kuwait in February last year.

State-run television and papers have revived Iraqi claims to Kuwait to coincide with the second anniversary of the invasion.

U.S. officials say the Kuwait manoeuvres are to remind Iraq that while Mr. Bush had no immediate plans for military action against Iraq, the option remains open and viable.

Mr. Majied said Kurdish "traitors" should "come to their senses" and "follow the course of true patriotism... before it is too late for them."

In comments carried by INA, he added: "They should cease themselves of all treason against the homeland that has struck to them."

Kurdish leaders were among Iraqi opposition chiefs who met U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Washington on Thursday in their highest-level meeting with members of the Bush administration.

Washington has also accused Iraq of attacking Shiite Muslim fugitives in the marshes of southern Iraq.

600 merchants said rounded up in Iraq and 42 'executed'

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq, squeezed by almost two years of U.N. trade sanctions, is cracking down on merchants accused of profiteering and has executed 42 traders by firing squad and jailed or detained more than 550, diplomats said Saturday.

Several of those executed came from prominent families and the contents of their warehouses and businesses had been confiscated by the state, the diplomats added.

Interior Minister Wathban Ibrahim Al Hassan, a half-brother of President Saddam Hussein, vowed to continue the drive against profiteers and "those who cheat with the food of the people."

The Defence Ministry daily Al Qadisiyah quoted Mr. Hassan as saying he was determined to implement a "special decision" to stamp out profiteering by monitoring prices in local markets.

President Saddam lashed out on July 26 against merchants he said were cheating the people. "The law takes action over the necks that do not deserve to live," he added.

Diplomats said security men had rounded up some 600 traders across the country since July 25, and 42 had been tried and executed. The rest were jailed or awaiting trial.

Traders were rounded up, tied to telephone poles in front of their shops with signs around their necks proclaiming them "greedy merchants," pelted with

eggs and fruit and spat on.

Foreign Ministry officials, according to the diplomats, privately confirmed the numbers arrested and executed.

The officials had justified the toughest campaign against profiteers since U.N. sanctions were imposed on Iraq shortly after its Aug. 2, 1990 invasion of Kuwait by saying it was essential to feed people at fair prices.

The diplomats confirmed reports from travellers who left Baghdad earlier in the week that relatives of those executed had been barred from publicly mourning the dead.

Many of those jailed were held at the Abu Ghraib jail, about 25 kilometres outside Baghdad, they said.

Diplomats said a cabinet reshuffle announced on Thursday showed the strains of sanctions with the sacking of Finance Minister Majied Abed Jaafar and his replacement by Foreign Minister Ahmad Hussein Al Khudayer.

Mr. Khudayer, a Saddam confidant and former ambassador who had held no previous economic post, faced a tough task in trying to control rampant inflation and bring down food prices, they added.

Following the crackdown on traders, most food prices were either unchanged or higher. Some basic commodities were in short supply and more expensive than ever.

Iraqis hire U.S. counsel to respond to litigation

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Iraqi government, looking ahead to the day when economic sanctions might be lifted, is finally mounting a defence to lawsuits by U.S. companies owed millions of dollars since the invasion of Kuwait nearly two years ago.

The Iraqis recently obtained licences to obtain U.S. counsel in three cases, even though any money they recover would remain frozen under sanctions imposed by the United States and its allies.

The licences, signed by Richard Newcomb, director of the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control, require the Iraqis to pay U.S. lawyers with outside, unfrozen funds.

After nearly a year of watching legal judgments mount against them, the Iraqis hired Edward S. Powers, an attorney whose law firm before the war represented the Rafidain Bank, a commercial bank owned by Iraq.

"At some point, this country will be doing business with Iraq again," Mr. Powers said. "They're entitled to try to protect themselves."

Until this past April, Iraq stayed out of the suits filed against its ministries and banks.

Iraq is seeking to reverse a \$53.2 million default judgement won in April 1991 by First City, Texas-Houston against Rafidain Bank and the Central Bank of Iraq, the republic's central banking authority.

A hearing in the case, which involves \$50 million in agricultural loans, plus interest, is set for Aug. 21 in New York.

Peter Baugher, a Chicago attorney representing First City, said that after the invasion of Kuwait, Rafidain stopped making foreign loan payments because Baghdad repudiated all foreign debt.

"There is no question that the \$50 million was borrowed and it wasn't repaid," Mr. Baugher said.

Mr. Powers also has filed papers in New York federal court

opposing a request by the Commercial Bank of Kuwait for a default judgement against Rafidain and the Central Bank of Iraq.

In the third case, Goodman Holdings and its subsidiary Anglo-Irish Beef Processors International filed a complaint in U.S. district court in Washington charging Rafidain failed to pay more than \$200 million for meat purchased before the war.

Rafidain has promised to respond by Aug. 14 to avoid a default judgement.

The Iraqis made their first move to get into the courts about a year after the First City judgement and another multi-million judgement in the District of Columbia.

In the Washington case, U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin awarded Consarc Corporation of Rancocas, New Jersey, a record \$64.1 million because Iraq lied about the eventual use of custom-made industrial furnaces. Mr. Sporkin noted the absence of Iraqi counsel.

"They're not here. And they've had every opportunity because they called my chambers and they were told to go and get a lawyer," he said during an August 1991 hearing.

Documents provided to the Associated Press indicate Iraq had consulted last summer with Washington attorney John M. Fedders.

The documents refer to a July 11, 1991, letter Mr. Fedders sent to the chief of the Iraqi interests section of the Algerian embassy.

In it, Mr. Fedders reviewed discussions with the Treasury Department about representing Iraq and having "the Iraqi ministry set aside several million dollars to cover legal fees and the unforeseen events in litigation."

There was on follow-through.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

'Al Nahdha not linked to extremist commando'

TUNIS (R) — The Tunisian fundamentalist movement Al Nahdha is not linked to an extremist movement called "Commandos of Sacrifice," an Al Nahdha spokesman told a military court on Saturday. Spokesman Ali Laridh is one of 107 people being tried by a Tunis military court on charges of plotting to overthrow the government. Among those accused are several alleged members of the clandestine "Commandos of Sacrifice" whose platform calls for the establishment of an Islamic state in Tunisia. Mr. Laridh told the court the alleged leader of the "Commandos of Sacrifice," Habib Lassoud, left the Al Nahdha movement in 1987 because he did not agree with the group's policy of dialogue with the government. Mr. Lassoud told the court earlier this week he had called for the establishment of an Islamic state through armed struggle but said he never put his preaching into practice. Mr. Laridh has denied all the charges against him. Unlike most of the other defendants, he said he has not been tortured by the police after his arrest, but only "psychologically" ill-treated. Another group of fundamentalists is being tried in parallel by the military tribunal under the same charges of plotting against the state and a separate charge of planning to kill President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali.

Kuwaiti man kills ex-wife at PoW group

KUWAIT (R) — An enraged Kuwaiti man went to a government office dealing with Kuwaitis held in Iraq and shot dead his ex-wife and the office director on Saturday. The Interior Ministry said the woman, named as Islah S., died when her ex-husband shot her three times at the head office of the National Committee for the Affairs of Prisoners and the Missing, where she worked as a secretary. The man, Jamal M., also shot dead the woman's boss, public relations head Waleed A., when he came out of his office to investigate the commotion, said the ministry statement, carried by KUNA news agency. The man then turned himself in to the police. The statement did not mention the motive for the crime.

Iranians urge Siemens to finish reactor

NICOSIA (R) — Demonstrators gathered in Tehran on Saturday to urge German firm Siemens AG to complete an unfinished nuclear power plant, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported. IRNA said the protest outside the Siemens office in Tehran coincided with a visit by the company's managing director. Kraft-Werk Union, a subsidiary of Siemens, abandoned work on the 80 per cent complete power station in the Gulf port of Bushehr after Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution. No nuclear fuel was transferred to the plant, which was attacked several times by Iraqi planes during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war. Germany said last year it would not help complete the plant. A statement issued by the demonstrators said Iran, as a signatory to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, was committed to using atomic energy only for peaceful purposes. It said International Atomic Energy Agency inspectors had verified that Iran's peaceful application of nuclear energy, and Siemens should fulfil its commitments as soon as possible.

Saudis execute Pakistani for smuggling drugs

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia's Interior Ministry said a Pakistani national was executed on Friday for bringing heroin and hashish into the country. In a statement carried by the Saudi Press Agency, it said Nurulrahman Aman Wali was executed in the city of Jeddah. It said the Saudi government was keen to severely punish drug traffickers and warned "this is the fate of anyone who tries to do likewise."

Moroccan charged in burning suitcase murder

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — A 28-year-old Moroccan was arrested and charged with killing his 57-year-old wife, whose body was found in a burning suitcase, police said Saturday. The burning suitcase was spotted Friday by a bus driver in a park in the capital. After putting out the flames, he saw there was a body in the suitcase. The victim, who was burned beyond recognition, had been stabbed seven times in the heart and stomach and had a deep gash in the top of her head. Police managed to identify the woman and searched her apartment late Friday. "There was blood all over the place," said police spokesman Arne Astrup. The remains were found on a lakeside path. Divers recovered from the lake another suitcase which contained a can of flammable liquid that probably was used to set the fire, police said. A taxi driver told the police he drove the husband to the park with two suitcases. The man, whose identity was withheld, was arrested Saturday morning outside the couple's apartment.

Congo releases three Israelis

BRAZZAVILLE, Congo (AP) — Three Israelis and two Frenchmen accused of carrying military equipment and plotting to assassinate pro-democracy leaders were freed from two weeks detention on Saturday. French Ambassador Mordechai Avital said the men were let out of jail and would fly home Tuesday. He identified them as Frenchmen Claude Dellus and Ogon Ellenberg, and Israelis Michael Belkine, Uri Eisner and Uri Amir. There was no immediate confirmation from the government of Prime Minister Andre Milongo, which had the men arrested at Brazzaville international airport on July 17 and accused them of being mercenaries hired by President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to assassinate opposition leaders. The detainees, who work for a private Israeli security company, appear to have been victims of a power struggle between the two men. Mr. Sassou-Nguesso was stripped of all but ceremonial powers by a national conference on democracy that chose Mr. Milongo to head an interim government to organise elections. Mr. Sassou-Nguesso said he had invited the five to review his personal security system and check his telephones for bugs as he prepared to contest presidential elections this month.

Kurdish separatists kill two in Turkey

VAN, Turkey (R) — Kurdish separatists killed a village religious leader and his wife near the eastern Turkish town of Tatvan, local officials said Saturday. They said guerrillas from the Kurdistan Labour Party (PKK) raided Dibekli village on Friday night. The rebels first lectured villagers on the Kurdish cause inside the mosque, then bound the couple by their hands and feet and executed them inside the village. They later burned their house and left their six-month-old baby with other villagers. The PKK has been fighting for an independent Kurdish state since 1984. Over 4,300 people have lost their lives in the struggle between the militants and security forces.

More sabotage reported against Algerian phones

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Saboteurs have attacked four more telephone exchanges in Algeria, cutting half the lines in the town of Tiarret southwest of Algiers, state radio reported on Saturday.

The radio said three exchanges were attacked in Tiarret, a town of 110,000 people 230 kilometres from the capital, and a fourth was hit in the nearby area of 'Ain Boucheik.

Violence has surged in Algeria since authorities cancelled elections which the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) was poised to win in January. A court banned the movement in March.

The latest edition of the clandestine FIS leaflet Al Nafir (Trumpets), pasted on a wall outside a main Algiers mosque, called on sympathisers to continue a strategy of "sabotage and fire."

State radio reported on Thursday that saboteurs had mounted a total of 27 attacks against Algeria's telecommunications network in 15 different parts of the country up to that date.

Policeman killed

A policeman was shot to death

Somalia — as a nation starves, drug trade booms

K50, SOMALIA (AP) — On this dirt airstrip 50 kilometres west of Somalia's capital, one of the last big commercial enterprises in a starving, destitute nation booms merrily along.

It is a multimillion-dollar trade in a narcotic plant with many spellings — kaat, kat, qat — depending on where it is grown and used in the Horn of Africa and the Middle East.

Every morning, while the sun is still low, dozens of traders and their heavily armed henchmen wait at K50 for planes bearing kaat from Kenya, where the plant is known as miraa.

As many as a dozen small planes arrive from Nairobi, chartered by Kenyan wholesalers at a minimum cost of \$2,000 the round trip of five to six hours.

Chewing the leaves and stems of kaat is a tradition among the largely nomadic people of Somalia. It equals the appetite and acts as a stimulant.

The scene at K50, named for the distance in kilometres from the capital, Mogadishu, is played out daily at dozens of similar remote airstrips.

"It's a huge business," said Khalif Sheikh Mohammad, 33, who took to the kaat trade after war destroyed his sign-painting business in Mogadishu. "It easily

runs into the millions of dollars every month."

Kaat does not grow in Somalia, but flourishes, legally, in the highlands of neighbouring Kenya and Ethiopia. Somalia's former dictator, Mohammad Siad Barre, tried to stamp out the use of kaat, but his prohibition was largely unenforced.

The drug arrives bundled, in small burlap bags weighing about 11 kilos each. Kaat is sold in Nairobi for \$33 a bag and brings \$40 to \$50 on the streets of Mogadishu.

It is blamed for much of the looting and random shooting by thousands of armed men that plagues the capital.

"The stuff comes to the markets in late morning and they chew it all afternoon," said Dominik Stillhart of the Red Cross. "By sundown, they are as jumpy as cats. That's when the shooting really starts."

Mr. Khalif, the former sign painter, defends his new trade. "It's like alcohol; it's not harmful," he said, waiting on the dusty, windy strip at K50.

"Hundreds of families depend on it. Thousands of people. Including a lot of women and children, make their living selling it. 'With the money they get, they buy food. They don't starve.'"

Syrian paper says Gemayel seeks to undermine peace

DAMASCUS (AP) — Syria on Sunday bitterly criticised former President Amin Gemayel's return to Lebanon after four years of self-exile in France.

The government-run Tishrin newspaper said in a front-page political analysis that Mr. Gemayel had returned to "plant mines on the path of national reconciliation and undermine the general elections."

Mr. Gemayel, a Maronite Catholic, returned to Lebanon Friday to help right-wing Christians who are trying to block next month's general elections before Syrian forces move out of the country.

"When Gemayel objects to the Lebanese elections, he is in fact order by Lebanon's foes to return home to sow the seeds of sedition and disorder," the paper said.

It added that the former president would also complete his old role by "striking against the march of legitimacy, reconciliation and reforms achieved after he fled the country in 1983."



Amin Gemayel

Syria, with 40,000 troops in Lebanon as part of a 1976 Arab League mandate, supports plans by the government of President Elias Hrawi to hold the elections. According to a Christian-Muslim pact that ended the 1975-1990 civil war, the vote should be before the end of September.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME TWO

12:30 Olympics: Live
12:30 Au Claire de la Lune
12:30 Le Monde Sous Marine
12:30 News in French
12:30 Weekly Sports Magazine
12:30 News in Arabic
12:30 Close to Home
12:30 Olympics
12:30 News in English
12:30 Olympics

PRAYER TIMES

04:47 Fajr
06:19 (Sunrise) Duha
12:42 Dhuhr
16:27 Asr
18:37 Maghrib
18:55 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetish, Tel. 510740
Assistance of God Church, Tel. 637285
St. Joseph Church Tel. 645950
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terracotta Church Tel: 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623441
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 773261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assiout International Church Tel. 683326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811235
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fair and winds will be southerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be southerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp.

Amman 18/31
Aqaba 25/38
Deserts 15/33
Jordan Valley 24/37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Am-

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

man 30, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 40 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Youssef Sammour 615648
Dr. Nizar Abu Zaid 894285
Dr. Issam Al Assar 898140
Dr. Adnan Zaghoul 898140
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637025
Naimah pharmacy 637030
Al Salam pharmacy 644945
Sulaimani pharmacy 637660

IRBID:

Dr. Omar Tahatmouzy (—)
Al Sharaf pharmacy (278825)

ZARQA:

Dr. Hisham Hiyasat (—)
Khalil pharmacy 985117

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Response 630441
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Fire Brigade 871228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010290
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Rajab Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power

HOSPITALS

Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
09:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:30 Jeddah (RJ)
11:15 Riyadh (RJ)
12:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
13:00 New Delhi (RJ)
13:30 Damascus (RJ)
14:15 Beirut (RJ)
15:45 Cairo (RJ)
16:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

07:30 Aden (AL)
09:30 Dubai (RJ)
11:15 Khartoum (SU)
12:25 Moscow, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
16:30 Istanbul (TK)
19:20 Rome, Beirut (AF)
20:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)
21:30 Cairo (MS)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
07:15 Beirut (RJ)
07:20 Damascus (RJ)
12:15 Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
13:15 London (RJ)
13:25 Frankfurt (RJ)
13:45 Cairo (RJ)
14:45 Moscow (RJ)
21:50 Doha (RJ)
21:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:45 Beirut, Doha (RJ)
22:30 Dubai, Muscat (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

08:30 Aden (AL)
09:15 Beirut (ME)

19:00 Bangkok (RJ)
20:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
09:45 Moscow (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

07:30 Aden (AL)
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11:15 Khartoum (SU)
12:25 Moscow, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GF)
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13:45 Cairo (RJ)
14:45 Moscow (RJ)
21:5

Turkey to help increase number of fallow deer

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is seeking help from Turkey to increase the number of fallow deer that were once extinct in the Kingdom for more than 100 years.

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), which is in charge of the country's six wildlife reserves, dispatched its director general Maher Abu Ja'far Sunday to Ankara for talks with Turkish officials to seal an agreement for supplying Jordan's wildlife reserves with the fallow deer, a species endangered with extinction.

In a statement before departure, Mr. Abu Ja'far said that the agreement would ensure another batch of fallow deer to be sent to Jordan and returned to its natural habitat in the mountains of Ajloun. The fallow deer were reintroduced to their natural habitat in Jordan at the Zubiya Wildlife Reserve near Ajloun in 1989, when a small number of deer were brought to the area from Turkey. The fallow deer is an endangered species with only some 200 animals surviving worldwide.

Mr. Abu Ja'far said that RSCN was trying to increase the

number of deer and has set up facilities for the deer and their keepers in the Zubiya reserve.

Once the number has multiplied, he said, the animals will be set free to live their natural life in the mountains.

The Zubiya Wildlife Reserve lies in an area considered as one of the few remaining relatively undisturbed oak woodlands in Jordan.

The first stage of developing the Zubiya Reserve included fencing the boundaries and building enclosures for the deer with financial aid from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in 1988.

The other wildlife reserves are located at Shomari, Azraq, Mujib, Dana and Rum.

The RSCN is intent on reintroducing endangered and locally extinct species to their natural habitats, prevent environmental pollution with special emphasis on marine pollution in the Gulf of Aqaba, promote public awareness on environmental issues, supervise and enforce hunting rules and regulations in Jordan and protect old buildings and sites considered part of the national heritage.

Sciences' importance stressed at the close of Arab congress

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal attended the closing session of the Arab Children Congress, which concluded its four day activities here Sunday. Addressing the children, Noor Al Hussein Foundation Director General In'am Al Mufri stressed the importance of innovation and novelty in enhancing the status of the Arab Nation.

She conveyed to participants the best wishes of Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein and voiced hope that such meetings would further enhance inter-Arab ties.

In their fourth and final day participants held a symposium on the importance of applying science and technology at a time when the world is about to enter the 21st century. Participants emphasised the importance of scientific knowledge as a prelude to technology.

They called on all Arab countries to direct special attention to science and technology, and to

eradicate illiteracy, and provide basic education for all.

They further called for providing efficient and highly-qualified teachers to teach science and facilitate the science curricula. They stressed the need for directing special care to school laboratories and encourage companies to set up scientific clubs and centres in all Arab states.

They encouraged the exchange of visits by children from the various Arab countries, with a view to acquiring first hand information on clubs, scientific and technical centres.

They also decided to approach the Arab League to issue a scientific magazine for children to be circulated to all Arab countries.

Taking part in the conference were 34 children, representing Iraq, Sudan, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Palestine and Jordan.

At the end of the closing ceremony, Princess Alia presented awards and certificates to participants.



Company signs deal to build faculty: The University of Jordan Sunday signed an agreement with a local contracting company to construct buildings for the faculty of educational science, a project expected to be completed by the mid 1995. The total area of the building will be 18,396 square metres, with auditoriums, laboratories, workshops, offices staff halls and seminar halls, in addition to a multipurpose hall, a cafeteria and

places of worship for the students. The university's vice president for administrative affairs, Dr. Sulaiman Arbiyat, signed the deal with the general manager of the local firm for the construction of the three-storey building. According to a university statement, the facility is needed to help train teachers and educationalists in academic and vocational fields.



Jawdat Al Shoul

Shoul urges citizens to vote in by-elections

AMMAN (J.T.) — Interior Minister Jawdat Shoul Sunday encouraged citizens in the fourth and sixth constituencies to exercise their right in choosing their representatives in parliament by voting in the by-election on Aug. 18.

Citizens are urged to register their names for voting, a process which will continue until August 15, said the minister in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The coming by-elections will be conducted in the same fair and free atmosphere of the 1989 general elections in the Kingdom, said the minister.

The Ministry of Interior has doubled the number of centres for the distribution of voter cards in the two constituencies and appointed committees and appointed committees to take charge of the voting process. He included the counting of the votes.

Turn out for the 1989 general elections was estimated by Ministry of Interior officials at the time to be less than 50 per cent of the eligible voters.

Mr. Shoul said that voter cards will be distributed, according to the voter lists revised in all governorates in 1991.

According to Ministry of Interior registers, 35,834 people are registered to vote in the fourth district while those registered for voting in the sixth district are 33,874.

Ministry officials said arrangements are now complete for the by-elections, noting that 36 and 33 committees have been assigned the task of counting the votes in the fourth and sixth districts, respectively.

Altogether, seven candidates are running for the single vacant seat in the fourth district, while three are contesting the vacant seat in the sixth constituency.

WHAT'S ON Exhibitions

★ Exhibition entitled "Exploring Science" at the British Council.

LECTURE

★ Lecture by Frédéric Lherbet, professor of oriental languages at the French National Research Centre at Rennes, entitled "Ancient Arabic Inscriptions of Jordan" at ACOR — 7 p.m.

Sudan-based Islamic agency to assist Jordan's needy

AMMAN (Petra) — The Sudan-based Islamic Relief Agency (ISRA) Sunday concluded an agreement with the Ministry of Social Development, paving the ground for initiating relief and humanitarian work in the Kingdom. According to the agreement ISRA will offer financial and in kind assistance and contribute to the improvement of health, economic, and educational conditions in the poor areas of Jordan.

The agreement provides for ISRA to offer services in helping build dispensaries, construct orphanages, housing units for low

income groups, schools, vocational and handicrafts centres and distribute food to the needy.

ISRA will also carry out specific programmes and projects in health care and offer scholarships for students. It will also conduct relief and humanitarian work.

ISRA, which has branches in many Arab countries, offers assistance through institutions responsible for social development.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Social Development Amin Mashaqbeh and ISRA Director General Abdullah Sulaiman.

Engineering dean: Link between science and development needed

RAMTHA (Petra) — A specialised course on water resources and environment engineering started here Sunday. The week long course, organised by the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) civil engineering department, aims at informing participants on the importance of water resources and of the engineering aspects of soil dams.

It also aims to highlight the problems caused by the shortage of water resources, mismanagement and how to overcome them. The course, attended by 40 engineers from the Armed Forces, Public Security Department and the public and private sectors, also discusses the scientific basis for water distribution and treatment of waste water.

Addressing the opening session, the engineering faculty dean Ahmad Abu Al Hajja stressed the need for linking scientific research with the national development plans, and called for

involving university teachers in drawing up the development plans.

Dr. Abu Al Hajja outlined his faculty's efforts to forge closer cooperation with other institutions in Jordan to strengthening interaction between the university and the local community.

He summed up the university's objectives in three points, namely teaching, scientific research and serving local community. He pointed out that the course is one of six courses scheduled for this year.

Head of the civil engineering department Tayseer Al Khedeiri stressed the need to pursue scientific development and discoveries by holding such courses. He noted the problems facing people, saying that water pollution, water shortages and the outbreak of disease among the poor are amongst the most important problems facing people this decade.

Committee reviews plans to restore Irbid mosque

AMMAN (Petra) — A special committee in charge of developing the tombs of Prophet Muhammad's companions held a meeting Sunday under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister and Transport Minister Ali Suheimat. The committee was briefed by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Izzeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi on minutes of the last session.

The committee looked at the organisation of the areas surrounding the tombs, which were provided by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) and reviewed a study prepared by the ministry to restore Irbid Grand Mosque.

The committee, which groups Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ben Zeid, Izzeddin Al Khatib, Minister of Public Works and Housing Sa'ad Hayel Al Srouf and Ra'ef Nijem, called for a comprehensive study of the sites to be restored or renovated.

It also wants to look into the possibility of acquiring the land adjacent to the tombs and swapping them for other plots of land in a bid to preserve these tombs.

It also called for drawing up a location plan, taking into consideration future expansion and increase population concentrations. The committee further called for giving priority to the tombs of Abu Obeida Amer Ibn Al Jarrah, and Ja'far Ibn Abi Taleb in the restoration and renovation processes.



Ali Suheimat

The call includes initiating work on the expansion of Irbid mosque before winter sets in. The Ministry of Awqaf has already prepared plans for JD 3.5 million worth of restoration and renovation works.

The committee was formed in response to instructions by His Majesty King Hussein, who made cash donations to restore the holy shrine in the south and north of Jordan.

Jordan accuses Israel of greater 'oppressive' measures

By Jamal Halaby
The Associated Press

AMMAN — Israel is reducing the number of Arabs it allows to cross a Jordan River bridge into the occupied territories, a government official said Sunday.

Adel Irsheid, head of the Department of Palestinian Affairs at the Foreign Ministry, called on the world community to intercede with Israel to "ease the human suffering resulting from Israel's actions."

"Israel has escalated its oppressive measures against Arabs and has been suddenly sharply reducing the number of people allowed to cross" King Hussein bridge, connecting Jordan with the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Mr. Irsheid said.

Speaking at a news conference, Mr. Irsheid said Israel has not been abiding by an agreed summer quota that allows as many as 22,050 people to cross the bridge weekly into the Israeli-occupied territories.

He said until the end of June, Israel only allowed in half the allotted number but in mid-July increased it to 15,500.

"Now, the Israelis are coming up every day with different excuses," Mr. Irsheid said.

For example, he said, the Israeli Sunday informed the Jordanian authorities through the International Committee of the Red Cross that they would only allow 1,000 people to cross on Monday "claiming bridge maintenance plans."

"That is going to further swell the human backlog on the Jordanian side," Mr. Irsheid said. "This is the first time something like has happened since Israel occupied the lands in the 1967 Middle East war."

He said the suffering is intensified by keeping Arabs waiting for several hours at the frontier in the sweltering heat. Once they cross, "they are subjected to humiliating search methods."

As a result of Israel's actions, almost 60,000 Palestinians must

wait for longer than 45 days cross to the West Bank, Mr. Irsheid said.

He said many carry resident permits that are about to expire. Others include students going to visit their families and elderly people seeking treatment.

In 1990, Jordan and Israel agreed through the U.N. border committee to allow 4,000 Arabs daily for five days a week to cross the King Hussein Bridge. An additional 2,050 were allowed in on Fridays. The bridge is usually closed on Saturdays.

The quota then was limited to the summer season starting May 15 until Sept. 1, when traffic usually is swollen. Palestinians returning from visits from jobs abroad, there was no specific quota for a usually slow winter season.

Bridges across the Jordan River have been an economic lifeline for the 1.7 million Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Strip.

Jordan enthusiastic to woo polo's European elite to play in Aqaba

By Rana Sabbagh

AQABA (R) — Ponies thunder across the baked earth and sand. Spectators cheer.

Eight players, among them Crown Prince Hassan, twist and turn, slasting with flexible white mallets at a small wooden ball.

Polo, a legacy of British colonial rule, is undergoing a revival in Jordan.

With plans for two new full-size polo fields on the drawing board, the Kingdom is now keen to woo European enthusiasts away from their traditional winter haunts in South America.

"We want Aqaba to become an international centre for polo," said Ammar Himoud, one of the Kingdom's top players.

"With further improvements, we hope to be able to attract European polo enthusiasts who normally go to South America for the November-March season," he added.

"Aqaba as a destination is closer, cheaper and enjoys similar mild weather."

Polo, played in Persia as early as 600 B.C., arrived in Jordan with the British army during the British mandate from 1921 to 1946.

It was immediately popular with the country's elite.

Today the Kingdom's most famous player is Crown Prince Hassan, who heads the Royal Jordanian team.

Polo in Aqaba is played near the 1967 Middle East War ceasefire line with Israel on a field which opened in April and is flanked by rose-coloured mountains.

The Aqaba complex has stables for 50 horses, living quarters for groomers, and two grandstands. Himoud said there are plans for two other full-size grass polo fields and a golf course.

The Aqaba complex complements a field set up in the 1950s in a military camp at Zarqa, close to Amman, where the then-mounted army trained. Club members, who include army and police personnel and diplomats, meet in Zarqa almost every day to train or play against teams from such countries as Pakistan, Cyprus, Britain and Brazil.

Extreme heat is the one thing that stops them meeting. Jordanian polo made world headlines this year when one of the prince's Arab geldings threw off its trainer and swam from Aqaba to the neighbouring Israeli resort of Eilat.

Israel, officially still at war with Jordan, took care of the horse and sent it back with children's messages of peace.

Most of Jordan's polo ponies are local although the Jordanian club treasurer, retired Colonel Mohammad Samman, introduced a breeding programme 10 years ago to produce Argentine and New Zealand/Arab cross ponies.



Crown Prince Hassan prepares to challenge his rivals during a polo match

Al-Mabrouk. ("The blessed one" in Arabic), an Arabian thoroughbred given to King Hussein by former Algerian president Chadli Benjedid in 1985, is the star of the breeding programme.

"With this Algerian stud and the Argentine ponies, we got excellent results," Samman said showing off more than 30 of Mabrouk's offspring.

Each pony will undergo months of rigorous training. Samman said Jordan's team is among the best in the region and has won several international

games. "In the 40 international competitions we took part in we lost four times, broke even five times and won the rest."

"But polo is not the only equestrian attraction this Red Sea resort offers."

An international-size show jumping arena opened in November at Aqaba's Royal Hours Riding Club.

The city can now, in theory, host competitions sponsored by the International Show Jumping Federation.



The National Music Conservatory / Noor Al Hussein Foundation and The American Center - Amman present

MICHAEL CALDWELL

in a Piano Recital

Wednesday, August 5, 1992 at 8:00 p.m.
The Royal Cultural Center - Main Theatre

In the programme: Bach's French Suite, Beethoven's Moonlight, Chopin's Polonaise and others.

Tickets for JD 5 each are available at:

• The Royal Cultural Center, Tel. 689028
• Safadi, Tel. 681322
• The American Center - Amman, Abdoun, Tel. 62101
• Rimal Stores, Tel. 623775
• Xerox Copy Center, Jdada, Tel. 688804
• The National Music Conservatory, Tel. 687625

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Crown Prince offers condolences

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Sunday delegated the Balqa governor to take part in the funeral of Abdul Karim Ensour, father of Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour, and to offer condolences to Al Ensour family on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein.

Envoys brief Sharif Zeid

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker Sunday received the Jordanian ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Yugoslavia, who briefed him on the activities of their embassies, and their role in serving and looking after the interests of the Jordanian community in these countries. Jordan's ambassador in Belgrade Hami Tubbara also briefed Sharif Zeid on the developments in Yugoslavia.

Kabariti receives Tunisian envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti Sunday received Tunisian ambassador to Jordan Mohammad Al Munji Labib, whose tour of duty in Jordan is expiring. Mr. Kabariti and Mr. Labib reviewed means of enhancing bilateral relations and strengthening cooperation in all fields. Mr. Kabariti also received the European Community delegate, Christian Falkowski, and reviewed with him means to strengthen relations between Jordan and the EC.

DEF to provide loans

AMMAN (Petra) — The Development and Employment Fund (DEF) has agreed to finance and provide loans for 127 projects in the south and bedia regions. The total loans amounted to JD 620,000, and the mean loan is JD 4880. The projects are expected to provide 280 job opportunities for job seekers in these regions. Agricultural projects took the lion's share with 59 per cent of the total loans country-wide, followed by the industrial and crafts projects with 25 per cent of the total projects approved by the DEF for funding in the southern regions. Karak governorate got the lion's share from these loans, as it ensured JD 270,000 to finance 50 projects, followed by Tafleeh and Mafrag governorates with JD 147,000 for each.

Consumer corp opens new branches

AMMAN (Petra) — The Board of Directors of the Civil Consumers Corporation decided Sunday to open four new branches for the corporation in various parts of the Kingdom to serve citizens with limited sources in income. The board also decided in its meeting held under the chairmanship of Minister of Supply Mohammad Al Saqaf to form a committee to study the prospect of reducing prices at the corporations branches. The committee will finalise its report on the issue within a short period of time.

Space picture conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is taking part in a 12-day conference on aerial and space pictures, which started Sunday in the Washington D.C. The conference will discuss a number of topics and papers on remote-sensing technology. Representing Jordan in the conference is the director general of the Jordanian Royal Geographic Centre Uqlah Al Dheimat, who left for Washington earlier Sunday.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Aug. 2, 2 years later

YESTERDAY marked the second anniversary of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The occasion of course meant different things to different people. Kuwaitis preferred to forget all about it and wait instead for Feb. 26 and remember that date as the anniversary of liberation. Iraqis were naturally split on the issue, with the louder voices of some officials insisting that Kuwait is still part of Iraq.

For us here in Jordan, the anniversary reminds us of the basic fact that the real reasons why our people sympathized more with Iraq than Kuwait during the crisis and the war that followed lie beyond the conflict over borders and even the issue of foreign intervention in Arab affairs. Those reasons had to do with democracy, human rights and the equitable distribution of wealth among Arabs and inside the Arab World itself.

There are those who think and argue that human rights — or rather lack of respect for human rights — and democracy — or its absence — had nothing to do with the Iraqi regime's decision to invade Kuwait. They are wrong, simply because to begin with autocratic regimes are not known to respect human rights of their peoples nor democracy, and furthermore it is infinitely easier for a country led by one man or one party to take a decision to invade another state than for a democratic country to do so. On the other hand, had the Kuwaiti regime not suspended parliament unjustifiably several months before Aug. 2, 1990, the Iraqi regime would have found it extremely difficult to order the invasion, since it too had to claim that its action was backed by Kuwaitis who were repressed by the Sabah family.

Democracy, human rights and the equitable distribution of wealth in an Arab World which is divided between a people-rich on north and a resources-rich south, are of necessity related. Jordanians, Palestinians, Yemenis, Moroccans, Syrians and Egyptians, among other Arab peoples, would not have taken the side of Iraq during the crisis had they not felt that the Kuwaitis withheld much needed economic support from their countries and outright refused the sharing of oil wealth with them, especially when they were mostly Arabs from the north who had built modern Kuwait and the rest of the Arab countries of the Gulf region.

In looking back at the experiences of the crisis and the war, therefore, it is difficult to see just how much the real lessons that should have been learned are still being totally ignored which leads us to be even more convinced that the "victorious" allies had practically nothing on their minds in waging the war against Iraq except to insure the continued flow of cheap oil and to win for themselves the contracts for rebuilding Kuwait and maybe even Iraq itself later on.

Those forgotten values are indeed too important and diverse to only remember them on this particular day and occasion. But it is also true that democracy and human rights cannot be disengaged and disconnected from the catastrophe that befell us in the Gulf in 1990 and 1991 and whose ramifications and consequences have hardly begun to surface. Nearly \$700 billion were lost by the Arabs to pay for that crazy war, when only a small fraction of that amount could have contributed greatly to redressing the balance of distribution between haves and have-nots.

The former "allies" have so far reaped great benefit from Arab infighting, but they cannot rest for ever assured that the next time there is a fight in this part of the world it will not be had at their expense and interests.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AMERICAN POLITICAL and military manoeuvres in the Gulf came under heavy criticism in Al Ra'i Arabic daily which accused the U.S. administration of trying to inflame the whole region again. American officials have said that the dispatch of additional forces to Kuwait was in accordance with plans to conduct military exercises, and observers believe that the forces were sent as part of President Bush's drive to improve his image before the American electorate trying to convince them of his determination to protect American interests, said the daily. But, said the paper, sending troops, coupled with open American threats against the leadership in Baghdad and with meetings held between the U.S. administration and the so-called Iraqi opposition groups, can all indicate that Washington harbours very real intentions against Baghdad. The Americans who continue to issue claims about alleged secret weapons being hidden in Iraq so as to pave the ground for military intervention, are trying to serve President Bush and support his shaky presidential campaign, said the paper. It said that creating tension in the Gulf can by no means help Mr. Bush win the required votes to secure another term in office, but can certainly increase Arab hatred against the Americans. Any military adventure, it added, can only be confronted by a determined and firm show of resistance on the part of the Iraqi people.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Sunday called on the Arab countries seeking unity to take the first step by ensuring water security for their people in the coming decades. Yousef Al Ghazal said that without water there can be no unity among Arabs or development for any country. World observers and water specialists believe that wars in the coming decade would be over water resources as the world population continues to grow while water resources continue to shrink, said the writer. He said that oil, as well as phosphate and other minerals, are bound to end one day and the Arabs should start now to work towards finding other sources for living, like agriculture. Water, which is the main element for agriculture and farming, should be secured through building dams, collecting rain water, tapping new resources and other means, said the writer. He said the Arabs should find in the looming water crisis a cause for meeting at the highest level and ought to pool their ideas, their funds and other available resources towards developing water resources which are needed at any time and in the years to come. The writer said that without water even industry can come to a standstill and this fact should be clear for every Arab country and its leaders. Without water, he said, those aspiring to unity could be building castles in the air.

Weekly Political Pulse

Shamir, Rabin — where do differences end?

Without attempting to exaggerate or belittle the differences between former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and the new Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the terms of the prospective peace process, there is nevertheless a fundamental difference between the two Israeli leaders and it would be folly to dismiss it as trivial or inconsequential to the impending peace talks between Israel and the various Arab parties. The outstanding difference between the two Israeli leaders lies basically in Shamir's almost religious attachment to the West Bank and Gaza Strip. When he used to call the Arab occupied territories as lands of Israel, Mr. Shamir was not bluffing any Arab side. In fact he and his Likud Party genuinely felt that the West Bank and Gaza Strip are part and parcel of Israel no matter what.

What was Mr. Shamir's point of departure and the basis of accepting to engage the Arab side in negotiations under the auspices of Washington.

The organic link between Israel proper and these Palestinian territories was unshakable from Mr. Shamir's point of view and that was essentially the bottom line in his and his party's negotiating posture in the peace parleys that were initiated in Madrid last fall and continued to be the ultimate position of his negotiating team no matter where the talks were conducted.

Of course Mr. Shamir was counting on Arab fumbling as excuse to frustrate the negotiating process and whenever the Palestinians and the other Arab parties showed flexibility or statesmanship, Mr. Shamir's men often felt cornered. That would explain how the negotiations, whether bilateral or multilateral during Mr.

Shamir's era never seemed to get anywhere and were destined to go nowhere as long as he and his Likud Party stayed at the helm.

Mr. Shamir had also a solution to the Palestinian presence in these coveted Arab territories. He actually sought to expel them en masse or transfer them in mass by making their lives unbearable in their homeland. Mr. Shamir even attempted to exploit the Palestinian intifada to serve his own end by using it as a pretext to accelerate his campaign to drive away the remaining Palestinians from the "lands of Israel." For Mr. Shamir it was only a matter of time before his dream would come true.

Mr. Rabin is of a different Israeli breed. He sees Israel's priorities differently and goes about achieving his aims and objectives in a different way. Unlike Mr. Shamir and the other Likud members, Mr. Rabin and his Labourites do not seem to entertain the religious hallucinations that the West Bank and Gaza Strip are inseparable territories from Israel proper. Yet Mr. Rabin and his men seek to maintain firm control over these territories from a security point of view. Mr. Rabin must have felt that a de jure annexation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip would necessarily mean the incorporation of the Palestinian people as Israeli citizens in the final analysis.

The Labour Party has yet to subscribe to the so-called transfer policy that envisages the mass transfer of Palestinians from their lands and homes. Unlike Mr. Shamir, therefore, Mr. Rabin knew that he could not have his cake and eat it.

Still Mr. Rabin thinks and acts smart by attempting to have his cake and eat it too, by seeking to keep physical control of the

West Bank and Gaza Strip by all sorts of security arrangements but without the "headache" of what to do with the Palestinians. He knows only too well under the prevailing international currents, his country cannot really afford to apply the transfer policy with impunity.

Mr. Rabin's solution to the Palestinian presence rests squarely in keeping them out of the Israeli population's mainstream by keeping them either as Jordanians (that is why the Labourites would like Jordan to be more involved in the peace talks) or as Palestinians, but without an independent country that enjoys sovereignty rights and duties.

Against this backdrop, both Mr. Shamir and Mr. Rabin are striving to accomplish the same objectives but with different styles and with different implications and costs. So far Mr. Rabin and the Palestinians is a mean and an end at the same time. He does not envisage going any further lest his ultimate objective of maintaining a firm security control over the West Bank and Gaza Strip become frustrated.

For Mr. Shamir, Palestinian autonomy was only a means to play for time and at the end drive away the Palestinians from their homes and lands. This Mr. Shamir tried to attain by making the autonomy talks almost impossible. His rejection of the Camp David accords is a living example of his rejection of Palestinian autonomy as a panacea to the Palestinian problem. Mr. Rabin therefore differs from him in the sense the actually thinks that Palestinian autonomy would afford his country a historic opportunity to have its cake and eat it.

Documents tell explosive PoW/MiA story

By Jim Wolf
Renter

WASHINGTON — For President Richard Nixon, March 29, 1973, was "the day we have all worked and played for" — U.S. troops had completed their exit from Vietnam and "all of our American POWs are on their way home," he said in a speech from the oval office.

Nearly 20 years later, Mr. Nixon's apparently premature attempt to close the books on the prisoner-of-war issue is coming back to haunt him and his top aides, including some now at the highest level of the Bush administration.

Beside the fate of any Americans who may have been left behind in Indochina, the PoW controversy raises questions of trust in government and armed

forces' morale, and could hurt the reputations of those involved in the issue and further strain U.S. relations with the Indochinese states.

The Senate Select Committee on POW-MiA affairs plans to hold hearings on the prisoner return in September. "We've taken the depositions of dozens of people closely involved in events up to and following 'operation homecoming,'" the 1973 PoW report said, Deborah Deyoung, a panel spokeswoman.

A large and growing body of documentary evidence now shows that top Nixon aides believed communist forces in Laos, at least, were still probably holding an unknown number of Americans, even as Nixon declared they were all free and that the United States had achieved "peace with honour."

The return of U.S. POWs and promises none had been left behind were essential for a clear-cut end to the war, and Nixon had formally linked the pace of troop withdrawals to prisoner returns to show he meant business.

At the time, the administration, signed by early fallout from the Watergate scandal, was rushing to extricate itself from the Vietnam war and its spillover into Laos and Cambodia.

But documents released by order of President George Bush show Mr. Nixon aides were considering punitive air strikes and other military action to free suspected U.S. prisoners in Laos as late as March 28, the day before Mr. Nixon declared them all back.

Lawrence Eagleburger, then the Pentagon's point man on PoW/MiA affairs and now deputy

secretary of state, wrote at the time that "there is an obvious lack of reporting about missing Americans by the Pathet Lao communists."

Only nine Americans captured in Laos, all of them seized in areas controlled by Vietnam, were among the final March 29, 1973, payload of PoWs from Hanoi. In all, 591 returned.

Senate PoW-MiA committee Chairman John Kerry said last month that an exhaustive review of the evidence indicated that as many as 133 Americans could have been left behind in Indochina.

Mr. Eagleburger, replying to a March 13, 1973, query from Defence Secretary Elliot Richardson, noted the impending return of the nine Americans captured in Laos, but said: "We still have the Laos MiA question

remaining unresolved." A total of 2,266 Americans are now listed as missing or otherwise unaccounted for in Indochina, 519 of them in Laos.

The U.S. withdrawal, under the Paris peace accords signed that January, was phased to coincide with the release of all U.S. prisoners in Indochina — as Washington told Hanoi.

"This statement was aimed directly at securing release of all American prisoners held by the Pathet Lao," Mr. Eagleburger wrote to Mr. Richardson. He recommended air strikes be used as a last step "to force the release of our prisoners in Laos."

In a March 28 memorandum to then-national security adviser Henry Kissinger, Mr. Richardson took this advice and urged Mr. Kissinger to tell the Pathet Lao communists that "the U.S. will

no longer play games with the PoW issue in Laos."

He suggested that the Laotians "should be told that we know they hold U.S. prisoners, and we demand their immediate release," and recommended pressing the Lao and their Vietnamese allies by moving a carrier task force into Vietnamese waters.

No such action was taken, as far as can be determined from the public record. Defence Department spokesman Pete Williams has told reporters he did not know what had been done in response to Mr. Richardson's recommendations.

Phone calls seeking comment were not returned by Mr. Nixon, Mr. Kissinger, Mr. Eagleburger, Mr. Kissinger, Mr. Richardson or Brent Scowcroft, then Mr. Kissinger's deputy and now Mr. Bush's national security adviser.

U.N. fears potential for vast refugee explosion in Europe

By Robert Evans

GENEVA — As they struggle to cope with a flood of Yugoslavs uprooted by war, United Nations officials look fearfully at other ethnic time-bombs which could create new waves of refugees.

Around Europe and its Caucasian and Asian fringes, they say, a nightmare scenario could be enacted if passions unleashed by the collapse of communism are not defused and flames of conflict not doused before they can spread.

"What is happening in the former Yugoslavia could be a chilling omen of evolving situations further east," U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata told a Geneva conference this week.

From Russians in the Baltics to Hungarian minorities outside their national homeland, from Muslim Gaguz in Moldova and Abkhazians in Georgia to Central Asian Turkic Uzbeks in Persian Tajikistan, her aides say, the potential for disaster is there for all to see.

Already the year-long Yugos-

lav crisis has driven nearly 2.5 million people from their homes, spilling one fifth of them over the one-time communist state's borders deep into western Europe.

Germany, with an already large population of Yugoslav migrant workers, has taken well over 200,000 and is keeping its doors open. Sweden on the northern edge has 55,000.

Switzerland has nearly 18,000 and is ready for more, the Netherlands 6,300. At the other end of Europe, Turkey, in Islamic solidarity with Bosnia's Muslims, has taken 15,000.

In the front line on the Yugoslav borders, Austria has given refuge to 50,000 and Hungary to 50,000 while 7,000 have found temporary asylum in Italy.

Across the whole of once-united Yugoslavia — broken into four independent republics plus a rump Yugoslavia composed of Serbia and Montenegro — 1.9 million homeless people are living in makeshift reception centres, the UNHCR says.

Similar tragedies could affect

the 400,000 Hungarians in Serbia's northern Vojvodina region and the 1.7 million Albanians in Serb-ruled Kosovo in the south.

Kosovo, where a Swiss expert described the situation as "a war in waiting," was stripped of its previous autonomy in 1990 and the overwhelming Albanian majority lost any real say in its administration.

Across the tense border in Albania, the UNHCR is considering contingency plans to receive refugees if the worst should happen and Kosovan Albanians rise, or are provoked to rise, in revolt.

A chain reaction to that, relief officials say, could be an exodus of people from Albania, Europe's poorest country.

To the east of Kosovo, the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia is also ripe for ethnic unrest as refugees from Bosnia, 50,000 and rising, swell the 20 per cent-Muslim minority which was until recently largely Albanian.

Academic analysts of international affairs in Geneva see the problem of Hungarian minorities in Romania and Slovakia, moving towards independence under a nationalist banner, as among the most volatile inside Europe.

But they, like officials in Budapest, feel the situation can be contained as long as economic conditions in the region do not suffer too deep a decline and ethnic Hungarians sense no serious encroachment on their cultural identity.

Economics, the analysts say, appear to be the driving force behind measures in the three newly-independent Baltic states of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania restricting the rights of large Russian minorities.

"The Russians are a useful lightning conductor," said one expert at Geneva University who asked not to be named. "They provide a diversion from the failure of the new governments to cope with their economic problems." Reuters

Kidnap plots swirl round Algeria's trapped children

By John Baggeley

ALGIERS — In Algeria, where law and Islamic custom make a father's will almost supreme, children of mixed marriages which go wrong can become pawns in a battle of cultures.

Trapped by Algeria's Muslim-based family code, scores of such children become the subject of desperate western mothers' pleas to ministries and embassies, of kidnap plots and vain trips to the North African country.

"Embassies don't see any real possibility of helping because strictly speaking they are not entitled to do anything because the children, wherever they are born, are Algerian citizens," said a foreign legal expert.

With the law's hands tied, despairing mothers seek alternatives, sometimes even resorting to kidnapping their own children. In Lakhdaria, some 60 km southeast of Algiers, a father told his side of a troubled cross-frontiers marriage.

"In the early morning I was suddenly woken by the noise of a door being smashed down. I'd

scarcely opened my eyes when I saw two men dressed in black, their faces covered just showing their eyes," the father said.

"I was quickly stunned by their fists ... Then they tied my hands and feet ... They had a walkie-talkie and carried out their strike perfectly."

An English speaking team of at least four men and a woman, using two cars, took the daughter, Akila, and her brother Djilali, over the Tunisian frontier some 450 km to the east.

The husband told a local newspaper one child was born in the United States, the other in Algeria where the mother lived for five years.

She converted to Islam and taught English in a local school, before deciding she wanted to live in America, he said. Finally he divorced her. Then came the "snatch," which succeeded despite neighbours' alerting police.

Diplomats say scores of children, born abroad and holding citizenship of countries including France, Spain, Britain and Ger-

many, are involved in so-called "tug-of-war" cases, where culture clashes finally destroyed marriages.

"Even if the mother is not Algerian she must have permission of the father to leave, with or without the children, and this of course is difficult to obtain," said the legal expert.

"Algerian law gives overwhelming weight to a father's custody of children. It leaves embassies helpless to assist and means judgments in foreign courts are virtually useless."

For privacy and to avoid more anguish, embassies do not like to give details of children kept in Algeria. But diplomats say foreign women should know some harsh truths before marrying.

The British embassy is believed to have some 10 such cases, one of which has dragged on for 12 years. The German embassy has five active cases out of at least a score of reports.

Former East Germany had close links with socialist Algeria, which sent students there on

three or four-year study courses.

"Many got married to German women and had children before returning to Algeria. The children are German, but not here where dual citizenship is not recognised," a diplomat said.

"I'm sure the French have many more cases but even with their links they say they can only negotiate for visits."

Not too long ago, French women in Algeria went on hunger strike to force their husbands to relent on their refusal to let them take their children home to France, Algeria's former colonial power, for Christmas.

The legal expert added: "Even if a mother goes to court abroad and wins, and flies out to Algeria for an arranged meeting, if the father decides not to turn up ... too bad."

"In one recent case, the father simply failed to appear at the rendez-vous after months of legal moves. He has later fined 1,000 dinars (\$47). The mother was back to square one." Reuters

LETTERS

Waste of breath

To the Editor:

The illogical nature of the U.S.-Israeli relationship was clearly described in the deliberations of Senator Robert Byrd on the Senate floor on April 1, 1992. He described this relationship as a dependent one, which has enabled Israel to maintain an enormous and highly dangerous nuclear and conventional military presence, neglecting Israel's much needed economic, political, and national reforms. The senator further criticised the customary annual U.S. billion-dollar aid package as not only contributing to Israel's dependency on U.S. taxpayer's money to prop up its shattered economy, but also as weakening the already weak U.S. economy by increasing the budget deficit and thus, raising interest rates for American people.

The issue of technology transfer was also raised. Senator Byrd stated that allegations against Israel's violating bilateral export control agreements, by creating a market for weapons around the world using American components, is symptomatic of the problems caused by Israel's attitude that it is exempt from regulations that apply to all other countries.

The senator also spoke of Israel's refusal to abide by international law and U.S. wishes in continuing to build illegal settlements on occupied Palestinian lands. He added that all administrations, since Lyndon Johnson, have called on Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories and have explicitly asked Israel not to use the housing loans provided by the U.S. to build settlements in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem.

However, U.S. wishes have once again been shoved aside by the Israeli government. Recent figures show an acceleration in the rate of building illegal colonial settlements as evidenced in the rise in the number of settlers in occupied territories from 75,000 in 1989 to 104,000 in 1991.

The victory of the "moderate" Labour government in the recent Israeli elections does not seem to have changed the Israeli government's illegal settlement policy. Immediately after the Labour Party's victory, Israeli officials were reported as saying that they expect the U.S. to approve the billion-dollar loan guarantees because the new government is willing to be flexible regarding Jewish settlements.

On the other hand, the new Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, was quoted as saying that he would "curb" political settlements in densely populated areas, but continue to expand settlements to bolster Israel's security.

It is obvious, therefore, that the basis of the Israeli policy remains the same and what has changed is only the appearance. Such a blunt criticism of the U.S.-Israeli relationship is a rare occurrence. The question now is: Will the current instability in the American political scene and the need for the powerful American Jewish vote override American national interest?

On the one hand, the Labour Party's victory has softened the rough edges of the Likud Party, which were beginning to irritate the American administration. Mr. Rabin's more diplomatic attitude may work at convincing the American policy-makers that Israel is planned on being cooperative with the latest Middle East peace initiative and coax them into giving Israel the multi-billion dollar loan guarantee it still expects from the U.S. taxpayers' pockets.

Moreover, the uncertainty which plagues the U.S. presidential elections this year is making Israel's supporters in the U.S. a much vied for wild card which is needed to fill the voting boxes of the contending presidential candidates. In other words, it seems that once again Israeli national interests are going to become more important than Americans' welfare. As long as political interest groups, such as the powerful Jewish lobby whose primary allegiance is to countries other than the U.S., are allowed to use their power and money to influence elections, American national and economic interest will be sold out to the highest bidder. And, the words of individuals such as Senator Byrd, who have their country's interest in mind, will remain a waste of precious breath.

Dr. Aida Dabbas,
Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

الجزيرة الأردنية

Baghdad defiant on anniversary

(Continued from page 1)

allowed to proceed last week, U.S. officials decided to move up the schedule, the official said. The latest exercise follows decisions announced last week to send a battery of Patriot missiles to Kuwait and another battery of the anti-missile weaponry to Bahrain.

Sheikh Saad also said his country had an emergency plan to deal with Iraqi non-compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions, Kuwait, radio, reported.

The radio quoted, Sheikh Saad, who is also prime minister, as saying that the Kuwaiti government had no intention of postponing parliamentary elections scheduled for October.

"His highness... said the government had an emergency plan to confront all possibilities and developments that may emerge from the continuation of the Iraqi regime's refusal to comply with the U.N. Security Council resolutions," the radio said.

The radio gave no details of the plan. It quoted Sheikh Saad as saying the Kuwaiti armed forces were on full alert to defend the country, and that Kuwait had contacted its friends over the possibility of threats to its sovereignty.

Sheikh Saad said Iraq was still showing its aggressive intentions through official statements, and called on Kuwaitis to be "cautious and fully alert," the radio said.

In Washington, Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said the United States was conducting military exercises in Kuwait to show U.S. commitment to the region. He said the exercises were not designed to provoke a response from Iraq.

Madaba

(Continued from page 1)

are determined to break the Islamic hold on their district and thus have lobbied extensively to keep the number of candidates low.

"There had to be two candidates beside the Muslim Brotherhood candidate," said Dr. Sami Hamarneh, a long-time political activist from Madaba. "We had to have one member from each tribe running because the Balgawieh will not vote except for a member of their own tribe and the Beni Hamidah are very poor and will not vote for establishment or for a member of the Balgawieh unless he is Islamic," Dr. Hamarneh explained.

Brotherhood candidate Ziad Abu Ghanem will take votes from both tribes because of his political association, Brotherhood members say.

"The people are predominantly Muslim and they will vote for the Islamic candidate," said Brotherhood spokesman Ziad Abu Ghanem. The absence of political parties has often made Islamic parties the only ones with a unifying platform for voters.

However, supporters of the "political forces" which wish to see an end to the Islamic hold over Madaba believe that by dividing the vote in each tribal area and among the Palestinians who are expected to vote for the Brotherhood or Mr. Shakhaneh, they will get Mr. Abu Ghanem into the House. "If the secular political forces in Madaba ask Mr. Shakhaneh to withdraw from the race he would lose 6,000 votes of Beni Hamidah will go to the Brotherhood candidate and thus Mr. Chreibat is more likely to secure a victory," said a seasoned observer in Madaba. "If Mr. Shakhaneh stays in the race he is likely to get many votes because of his family and tribal connections and thus reduce the number of votes given to Mr. Chreibat."

"Fawaz Abu Ghanem has the best chance against Mohammad Khreibat because he Balgawieh will not vote for Mr. Shakhaneh under any circumstance," one member of the Balgawieh tribe told the Jordan Times. "They are too ill-will to allow of their competitor tribe, which is not only smaller but poorer, to have votes in Parliament while they have none," he said.

If the apparent "political understanding" between the secular candidates results in the defeat of the Islamist candidate it will be a precedent. Jordanian politics that has been a campaign for the 1993 elections. Unlike the Sixth District, which will also have by-elections on Aug. 18, and where seven candidates are running for one post, the political forces in Madaba are determined to make the elections an indicator of how strong religious and secular forces really are in their district.

An Iranian newspaper said that U.S. presence in the Gulf was no solution for regional security problems and urged its Arab neighbours to cooperate in their own security plan.

The Persian daily Abrar, commenting on the manoeuvres by American and Kuwaiti military forces in Kuwait, said that if the right mechanism of cooperation were found "the region's security would be provided."

"The presence of 2,500 U.S. soldiers or launching joint military manoeuvres or arms purchases are not the proper remedy," said the commentary.

The manoeuvres from Aug. 3-17 had been expected to include more than 2,000 U.S. military personnel from the air force, marines and navy. But the Bush administration announced Friday that it was sending an additional 2,400 troops.

Mr. Cheney said Saturday the additional 2,400 soldiers likely will remain in the Gulf region about two months.

The training exercise will show Iraq the U.S. resolve "to return rapidly to the region in the event of a crisis," Mr. Cheney said on CNN's "Newsmaker Saturday."

The defence secretary said that "I just categorically reject" the notion that the action has any connection to shore up President George Bush's floundering political fortunes. Democratic challenger Bill Clinton is leading comfortably in presidential polls.

Mr. Cheney said the decision was made to dispatch the troops now, rather than in September as originally planned, because Iraq refused to allow United Nations inspectors access to its Ministry of Agriculture. Records of a suspected covert weapons programme were thought to be stored there.

Fighting between two Kurdish guerrilla groups in northern Iraq

House panel

(Continued from page 1)

in the governorates and demanded that efforts be made in collecting dues, including instalments on housing units and avoid delays in government tenders.

The committee also demanded that fines due to the Radio and Television Corporation be collected and that legal action be taken against defaulters.

According to the report, a total of JD 939 million are still due to 47 ministries and government departments.

In addition, the report noted, JD 134,825,777 are due on companies as well as JD 770,535 due on individuals and JD 19,805,451 due on companies and individuals combined.

The committee noted that the bureau's report had complained of the failure of some public offices to follow the advice of the Audit Bureau.

has left 29 people dead, an official of the Patriotic Union Kurdistan (PUK) said Saturday.

Kamal Fuad, a ranking PUK official, said the clash occurred Thursday and Friday at Kalar, 150 kilometres south of the major Kurdish city of Sulaymaniyah.

He said the fighting had been between the guerrillas of PUK and a small, fundamentalist Islamic movement of Kurdistan.

A leading Iraqi Shiite Muslim opposition group said Saturday Iraq had executed five people for working against the government.

"As part of its continuing (policy) of oppressing and eliminating any opposition voice, authorities... executed five citizens by firing squad on July 10," the Iran-based Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) said in a statement sent to Reuters.

It said the five, aged between 22 and 31, were charged with

working against the government and sympathising with the opposition. They were executed in Al Amarah, 310 kilometres southeast of Baghdad, it said. An Iranian newspaper said Saturday that Iraqi opposition groups would have to unite if they wanted the West to work for the overthrow of President Saddam Hussein.

"As long as there is disarray in the ranks of the opposition forces, no country would be willing to risk replacing the present regime in Baghdad with the chaotic conditions that might ensue from the fall of the Baath Party," the Tehran Times said.

The paper, which is close to Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, referred to a meeting in Washington this week between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and six Iraqi opposition leaders, including Shiites and

Kurds. "The presence of both of the prominent Kurdish leaders, Masoud Barzani and Kalal Talabani, in Washington bespeaks their more or less common stances regarding the current events in Iraq," it said in an editorial carried by the Iranian news agency IRNA.

The anniversary was largely ignored by ordinary Iraqis, who went to work and scrounged for food. "Two years ago Kuwait fell apart," said an Iraqi hotel worker. "Two years later we are falling apart."

Diplomats said official celebrations were larger than last year, reflecting what Baghdad sees as its "stupendous victory" over U.N. arms inspectors and its defiance despite thousands of U.S. troops on their way to Kuwait for war games.

Jordan helps Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

The 1978 Camp David accords, which led to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty a year later, outlined an interim, five-year period of self-rule for the Palestinians living in the occupied territories. According to this and the Madrid peace conference formula, agreement on the transitional period would be followed by

negotiations on the final status of the occupied territories. But only in the Camp David accords it was specified that the Israeli army would withdraw from the occupied territories, leaving a force in specified security locations. A "strong police force" would then maintain public order.

The five-man Palestinian team, according to Jordanian sources, includes policemen who previously worked with the Jordanian security department before 1967

and continued to work with the local administration in the occupied territories which is under the jurisdiction of the local municipalities.

The report of the formation of a Palestinian police force drew immediate criticism from Jewish settlers who oppose any step toward Palestinian autonomy.

The AP quoted settler spokesman Aharon Dohi of Kiryat Arba in the West Bank as saying the idea would put masked Arab uprising activists in charge of security in the occupied territories.

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Linford Christie becomes oldest man to win Olympic 100-m title



BARCELONA (R) — Linford Christie produced the performance of his life when it mattered most to become the oldest man to win the Olympics 100 metres gold.

The 32-year-old Jamaican-born Briton blasted out of the blocks, surged again at 60 metres and left the best sprinters in the world gasping in his wake as he won the coveted Olympic gold medal in 9.96 seconds.

"I think it's the best race of my life," the jubilant Briton said after a victory lap draped in the Union Jack. "The best race I've run for the 12 years I've been doing athletics."

"My start is usually the weakest part of my race but between yesterday and today I've been focusing on it and it worked."

Christie is the third Briton to win the Olympic title along with Harold Abrahams and Sootman Allan Wells, the previous oldest Olympic gold medalist at the age of 28 in the 1980 Moscow Olympics.

The women's 100 a quarter of an hour earlier saw five women cross the finishing line within 0.06 of a second of each other.

It looked too close to call and the field of eight anxiously watched the giant video screen which revealed American Gail Devers had finished first ahead of Jamaican Juliet Cuthbert.

Devers, who almost had both feet amputated two years ago because of a thyroid complaint, leaped in the air and rushed to embrace coach Bob Kersee.

"I had no idea when I was looking up at the picture, I can tell you now," she said. "It wasn't until Juliet turned to me and said, 'Gail you've won.'"

Two other medals were decided on a warm, sticky night in Montjuic Stadium.

Valentina Yegorova became the first athlete from the former Soviet Union to win an Olympic Marathon title after an epic battle with Japanese Yuko Arimori over the final five kilometres.

And German Silke Renk won the women's javelin on her last throw by eight centimetres from Natalya Shikolenko who had led for the first five rounds. Renk's final mark was 68.34 metres.

Both 100 metres races were classics of their kind one a desperate battle to the line, the other revealing a great sprinter in the performance of his life.

Devers had not been tipped to win ahead of U.S. champion Gwen Torrence and Christie was considered too old to handle the elite Americans.

"I definitely knew I had to run the best race of my life," Devers said. "I couldn't have an ounce of doubt going into the race."

Devers got an excellent start along with third-placed Irina Privalova of the CIS.

The 25-year-old American, who won a silver medal in the 100 hurdles at last year's world championships, pulled ahead midway and surged again near the end to head off the fast-finishing Cuthbert.

Torrence finished fourth and Jamaican Merlene Ottey, seemingly doomed never to win a 100 gold at a major meeting, was fifth.

"I think Gail was ahead the whole way," Cuthbert said. "It's really hard to play catch-up at the Olympics."

The result of the women's was never certain until the official result had been flashed on to the scoreboard.

The men's was never in doubt. Christie, a man of moods who did not take running seriously until he was 25, showed his magnificent temperament for the big occasion with a splendid victory. He led from start to finish.

He headed Namibian Frankie Fredericks by six hundredths of a second with American champion Dennis Mitchell third and world silver medalist Leroy Burrell a disappointing fifth following a terrible start.

"They're good," Christie acknowledged after what must have been an exquisitely satisfying win over Mitchell and Burrell.

"But this is Europe and today was my day. It doesn't mean they're never going to beat me again."

Yegorova, competing for the CIS, conquered the humidity, Barcelona's crowded streets and an extracting climb to the stadium to win the 42.195-km race in two hours 32 minutes 41 seconds.

Teh 28-year-old Russian pulled away from Arimori with a few hundred metres to run and strode around the track to win by just eight seconds.

Gymnastics

Romanian Lavinia Milosovici won two apparatus gold medals in the gymnastics and threw away the chance of a third when she fell from the beam.

But, after her tumble, Milosovici pulled herself together with considerable cool to score a perfect 10 in winning the floor gold.

It was only the second full mark of the Olympics, after tiny Chinese newcomer, Lu Li had been judged flawless on the asymmetric bars earlier in the evening.

Lu's gold was the first for a Chinese woman in a boycott-free Olympics. Their only previous champion, also on the asymmetric bars, was Ma Yanhong in 1984 when the Soviet Union boycotted the Los Angeles Games.

Milosovici, 15, shared the vault title with Hungarian Henrietta Onodi, already world champion on the apparatus. Yanyana Lysenko took the Commonwealth of Independent State's only gold of the night, on the beam.

The pony-tailed Milosovici, world champion on the asymmetric bars, had already helped Romania to win team silver and had taken the all-around bronze medal.

But it was her professionalism in picking herself up from the beam disappointment which won the hearts of the 15,000 strong crowd — among them American actor Jack Nicholson.

Milosovici finished last on the beam after running out of space to land a series of backflips and falling off, an error which carries a half-point penalty.

But, as she does before every apparatus, she rolled up the sleeves of her leotard and spat in the palms of her hands to take to the floor.

She finished a superb routine to jazz-rock music with a beaming smile and coach Octavian Bellu leapt several feet in the air when the 10 flashed up on the scoreboard.

Lu, just 1.36 metres tall, was an equally popular winner and appeared on the medals podium

again when she shared the beam silver with American Shannon Miller.

The 15-year-old Chinese rushed off after her win to telephone her parents, who had been watching the gymnastics on television back home.

"I haven't been home in six months," and Lu. "This makes the hard work and training worthwhile. It's the first time I've got gold or a 10."

There was disappointment for two old foes, world all-around champion Kim Zmeskal of the United States and a former holder of the honour, Svetlana Boginskaya of the CIS.

Zmeskal, who has had a miserable Olympic, finished last in the vault after sitting down on her second jump.

Boginskaya, 19, placed fourth in the vault — the event she won at the 1988 Seoul Games 1988 — and fifth on the beam but was replaced without explanation by team mate Oksana Chusovitina in the floor final.

Apart from Lysenko's beam gold and vault bronze, the CIS, who won the team title earlier this week, took home an asymmetric bars silver and a floor bronze for all-around champion Tatyana Gutsu.

Weightlifting

Kakhi Kakhiashvili of Georgia stole the gold medal in the middle-heavyweight (90 kg) Olympic weightlifting competition by equalling the world record with his final lift.

The Georgian, who trailed team mate Sergei Syrtsov of the CIS by 12.5 kg at the half-way stage, caught up with him with a mighty final clean and jerk of 235 kg.

The two had identical totals of 412 kg but Kakhiashvili won on lower bodyweight. He was 200 grammes lighter.

The medals machine of the CIS team of former Soviet republics steamrollered on in the weightlifting arena despite a raging controversy over disqualified Russian lifter Ibragim Samadov.

Sergei Wolczaniecki of Poland took the bronze medal. Syrtsov, from Uzbekistan, looked a certain winner after the snatch when he set a new Olympic record of 190 kg to seize a commanding lead.

But he could only manage 222.5 kg in the clean and jerk against Kakhiashvili's 235.

The Georgian grimaced with pain as he held the bar aloft, but a grin spread across his face as he held it still and realised that he had won.

All eyes were on the awards ceremony after Friday's dramatic events when bronze medalist Samadov walked out leaving his medal behind.

Olympic chiefs stripped him of his medal and threw him out of the games Saturday. The International Weightlifting Federation banned him for life for shaming the Olympic Movement.

On Saturday there was only a minor hiccup.

Medals table

BARCELONA (R) — Olympics medals table after the seventh day of competition Saturday (tabulated: Gold, silver, bronze):

Team	G	S	B
CIS	24	16	16
The United States	15	16	17
Germany	12	10	13
China	9	7	2
Hungary	9	8	5
Australia	5	0	3
South Korea	5	0	0
Spain	3	4	5
Japan	3	4	4
Poland	3	3	3
Britain	3	2	5
Romania	3	1	3
Canada	2	3	9
France	2	3	9
Italy	2	2	5
Cuba	2	1	0
Turkey	1	4	1
Bulgaria	1	1	0
Czechoslovakia	1	1	0
Norway	1	0	0
Estonia	1	0	0
Greece	1	0	0
Sweden	0	2	3
New Zealand	0	1	5
Netherlands	0	1	2
Yugoslavia	0	1	1
Israel	0	1	0
Jamaica	0	1	0
Namibia	0	1	0
Austria	0	1	0
Brazil	0	1	0
Latvia	0	1	0
Peru	0	0	2
Belgium	0	0	1
North Korea	0	0	1
Finland	0	0	1
Mongolia	0	0	1
Slovenia	0	0	1
Surinam	0	0	1

Note: Two bronze medals awarded in Judo finals.

The bronze total of the CIS has been amended after light-heavyweight weightlifter Ibragim Samadov was stripped of his medal.

The scoreboard presented Kakhiashvili as representing Russia. He noticed the mistake and turned round good-humouredly to show the name Georgia on the back of his tracksuit.

Officials cleared the scoreboard and quickly announced his correct nationality the maroon Georgian flag was hoisted.

Hosts Spain and former champions Poland reached the semifinals of the Olympic soccer tournament Saturday with wins over Italy and Qatar respectively.

Francisco Narvaez Quico scored the 38th minute goal which gave Spain a 1-0 win in their foul-strewn match against Italy in Valencia's Luis Casanova Stadium. Italy's Renato Buso was sent off in the final minute. Wojciech Kowalczyk and Marcin Jolocha netted the goals in Barcelona's giant Nou Camp Stadium which carried 1972 Olympic champions Poland to a 2-0 victory over Qatar.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Bilbeis wins speed test

AMMAN (I.T.) — Ghaith Bilbeis has won the Oklax Speed Test organised by the Royal Automobile Club of Jordan (RACJ). Bilbeis in a Toyota Starlet finished with a time of 2 minutes 10.59 seconds. Marouf Abu Samra came in second with a time of 2 m 8.48 seconds in a Renault 5 GT Turbo. He was followed by Hassan Taba'a in third place with a time of 2m 9.50 seconds. Other participants included Marwan Abu Hamad who finished fourth in the 1991 Middle East Rally Championship, Bishar Qunz Majidi Al Jallad who finished fifth in the Jordan Driver's Open in 1991, Remon Fieffel in a Toyota Corolla GT, Yanal Komok, Tareq Taba'a and Sinan Saudi. His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein distributed awards to the winners of the speedtest in which 50 competitors participated Friday in the morning and afternoon sessions at RACJ race course.

Volkov beats Borg

BROOKLINE, Mass. (AP) — Aleksandr Volkov ended the most successful tournament appearance of Bjorn Borg's comeback with a 6-4, 2-6, 7-5 victory Saturday in a quarterfinal match at the U.S. Pro Championships. But a flustered Volkov lost hours later to Richey Reneberg in an evening semifinals match, 4-6, 7-6 (7-5). Borg, making his first appearance at the Longwood Cricket Club since winning the tournament for the third straight year in 1976, advancing farther than he has in tournament play since launching his comeback last year. Borg, 36, said his goal is to play a Grand Slam event next year. But his experience fell victim to the youth and power of his Russian opponent. Volkov led 3-0 in the final set Friday night when the match was delayed to Saturday by a heavy rain. Reneberg, who finished his rain-delayed quarterfinals match Saturday by beating Jeff Tarango in straight sets, 6-3, 6-3, jumped out to a quick 4-2 third set lead over Volkov and never let the Russian back into it. In other quarterfinal action Saturday afternoon, Ivan Lendl, the 12th ranked player in the world, easily defeated Greg Rusedski, an 18-year-old native of Montreal, 6-3, 6-2. And in a match that was suspended because of rain after just three games on Friday night, Malivai Washington downed Eric Amend, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

Brazil champs defeat S. African club

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Brazilian champion Flamengo outclassed Jomo Cosmos of South Africa in a 4-2 victory Saturday at the start of a three-match tour. Flamengo led 1-0 at the half and made it 3-0 before Jomo Cosmos could counter. Scorers for Flamengo were Paulo Nunes in the 28th minute, Marquinhos in the 65th minute, substitute Luiz Antonio in the 70th minute and Marquinhos again in the 87th minute. Chris Mwakapuki and Shawn Donnelly scored late for Jomo Cosmos.

Olympics record sells 400,000 copies

BARCELONA (R) — A recording of opera arias sung at the Olympics opening ceremony has sold 400,000 copies worldwide in two days, the record company said. The recording is of a selection of arias sung by Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Montserrat Caballe and other stars at the lavish opening last Saturday.

Lineker Japan debut ends in draw

NAGOYA, Japan (R) — Former England captain Gary Lineker's debut in the red and yellow jersey of Grampus Eight ended in a 1-1 draw when his new Japanese side took on Brazilian team Corinthians in a friendly soccer match. Midfielder Testuya Ashano scored with a 30-metre drive for Grampus in the 87th minute, only for Wilson Carlos Mano to equalise for Corinthians of Brazil with a perfectly placed free kick from outside the penalty box a minute into injury time. Lineker, who played for the last five minutes of the first half and all the second half, was loudly cheered whenever he got the ball but had few chances in the humid and sticky conditions. A self-out crowd of 30,000 watched their new team, which joins Japan's first professional league beginning next year.

Discus thrower cleared for games

BARCELONA (R) — Spanish discus thrower David Martinez has been cleared of alleged drug-taking and will take part in the Olympics despite a hepatitis infection. Four recent tests showed higher than usual levels of Testosterone which could be caused by use of a banned steroid. But Juan Manuel Alonso, secretary of the Spanish Athletics Federation's anti-doping commission, told reporters Saturday doctors were convinced the abnormal results were caused by a hepatitis infection. "He has acute Hepatitis B which is altering the function of his liver," he said, adding he was convinced the athlete had taken no banned substance. "If he had, the (Testosterone) level would be much higher." Martinez's levels had exceeded those permitted by the International Olympic Committee, but Dr. Alonso said the IOC had treated it as a special case because of the illness.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY AUGUST 3, 1992

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A mutual understanding, far better than you have had in the past will result from saving. Your prophetic insight and intuitions work well to your advantage now.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) During the morning get your bills paid and moneys collected for then you will be able to get into contacting persons able to further your routine activities.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) In the morning get into those personal interests important to you after which you will be able to get into financial matters and add to assets.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Enter into conversations with confidential advisors and get their views in the morning, then you will be able to use them tonight to your advantage.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Go after a practical personal desire before noon and you can get it while in the evening plan a new assault upon gaining your intimate aims.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Get right into your outside vocational activities and push them in the morning for then you can gain more subjective desires by unusual means.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be wide awake to some interesting new opportunity in the morning then consider how it can be utilised in bolster your public outlets of importance.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Get rid of any promises you have made in the morning which should be easy to do then later you can get off to some appealing new activities, make them part of your life.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You can reach a new understanding with a usually difficult person in the morning after which get right into details of arrangements agreed upon with some zest.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You can start the morning doing tasks of importance in an efficient manner while later an outside associate gives good suggestions for your future.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You can arrange all sorts of fun times for the future in the morning, then get into tasks facing you and do them in an original fashion for best results.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Whatever you need to do at home can have satisfactory results if you handle such in a congenial fashion, then be off with congenial companions to fascinating amusements.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Get into statements and reports of importance in the morning then you will be able to join with your family in whatever requires interesting action at home.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

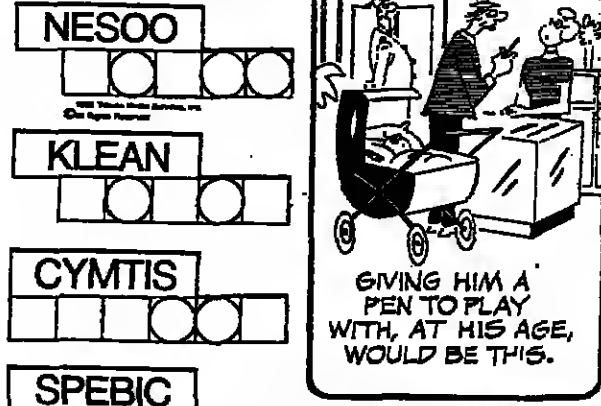


"Me...daydream about other women? I'd never do that, Gloria — I mean, Harriet!"

JUMBLE.

by Heart Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



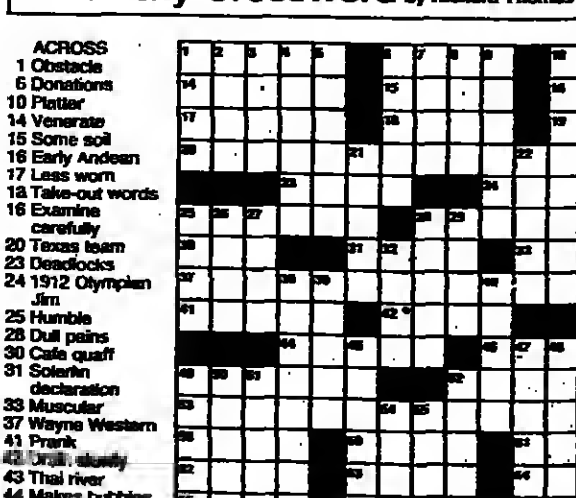
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumbles: GRAVE BASIN STYMIE JOYOUS

Answer: Is she a good dressmaker? — SO IT "SEAMS"

THE Daily Crossword by Richard Thomas



Across: 1 Obstacle, 5 Donations, 10 Plotter, 14 Venerate, 15 Some soil, 16 Early American, 17 Less worn, 18 Take-out words, 19 Examine carefully, 20 Tennis team, 23 Deadlocks, 24 1912 Olympian, 25 Humble, 26 Dull pains, 30 Cuts quaff, 31 Solemn declaration, 32 Muscular, 37 Wayne Western, 41 Prank, 42 Unusually, 43 Thai river, 44 Males' dobles, 46 Infidel, 48 Pay heed, 52 Blowout of, 53 Cavalry call, 58 Opposed to, 60 Maximum, 61 Spay, 62 Pipe part, 63 Narrative, 64 Toast type, 65 Stand or stretch start, 66 Erupt, 67 Hog havers.

Down: 1 Hobbit or, 2 Corned, 3 Our, 4 Originate, 5 Abdominal, 6 Chair numbers, 7 Diving bird, 8 Natively to, 9 Survive, 10 Incised (to), 11 Acquire, 12 Stamp slope, 13 Medieval guild, 21 Morose insect, 22 Ethical queen, 25 Information, 26 Verve, 27 Disavow, 28 One of the, 29 At the home of, in France, 32 Molecule maker, 34 Novelist Farber, 35 Confused text, 36 Longings, 37 Kind of, 38 Guarantee, 39 After me, 40 Reddish-brown, 45 Changes to fit, 47 Hull House, 48 Thunder Jane, 49 Thimble, 49 Embarrass, 50 Lone Ranger's, 51 Sliced symbol, 52 Off-center.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solution: 1. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 2. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 3. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 4. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 5. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 6. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 7. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 8. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 9. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 10. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 11. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 12. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 13. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 14. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 15. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 16. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 17. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 18. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 19. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 20. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 21. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 22. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 23. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 24. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 25. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 26. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 27. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 28. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 29. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 30. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 31. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 32. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 33. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 34. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 35. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 36. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 37. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 38. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 39. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 40. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 41. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. P. Q. R. S. T. U. V. W. X. Y. Z. 42. A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O.

Financial Jordan Times
Markets In co-operation with
Cairo Amman Waqf
U.S. Dollar for International Markets

Foreign Exchange Market Summary (July 27-July 31, 1992)

AMMAN — Economic considerations were back in focus last week as market anxiety over tension between Iraq and the United States subsided. The dollar, hence, resumed its decline, while the German mark surged. At the end of the week, the U.S. unit was an average of 1.7 per cent lower against European currencies and 0.8 per cent lower against the Japanese yen.

The dollar and the yen Monday sharply fell against the German mark. The yen was weakened by the continued losses in the Tokyo Stock Exchange, as well as a BOJ discount rate cut to 3.25 per cent, which further widened the interest rate differential to the mark's advantage.

The U.S. unit dropped to its lowest level of the week Tuesday, closing in New York at 1.4730 marks and 1.4730 marks and 1.9310 dollars to the pound sterling. The drop was triggered by the release of the July U.S. Consumer Confidence Report, in which the index declined by 8.5 per cent more than forecast to 61 per cent. Market participants were worried that if consumer confidence continues to deteriorate, it will eventually feed into the corporate outlook and economic expansion.

The dollar rebounded Wednesday, however, on bouts of technical adjustments justified by the dollar's resilience against breaching support at 1.47 marks. The dollar was also helped by a rally on the New York Stock Exchange. The U.S. unit thus closed at its highest level of the week at 1.4815 marks and 127.82 yen.

Towards the end of the week, the dollar slid again at the release of several U.S. economic reports with mixed results. Second quarter Gross Domestic Product (GDP) indicated an annualised growth rate of 1.4 per cent against a forecast of 1.7 per cent and compared to 2.9 per cent per annum in the first quarter.

Factory orders on the other hand, increased by 2.3 per cent in June. The dollar hence appreciated during Friday's trading, but retreated on profit taking ahead of the weekend, after reaching 1.4820 marks. Traders were further encouraged to sell as the University of Michigan's July Consumer Confidence Index was also reported to have declined.

Market reports still point to the prevalence of negative dollar sentiment in the short term, due to the low interest income earned on dollar balances, coupled with the still-bumbe state of U.S. economic recovery. Market participants, thus, expect the dollar to resume its down trend in the near future, although fears of a renewed coordination intervention by central banks could restrain aggressive dollar short selling.

New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the U.S. Dollar

Currency	24/7/92	31/7/92	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	1.8940	1.9275	1.77%
Deutsche Mark	1.5040	1.4745	2.00%
Swiss Franc	1.3322	1.3166	1.23%
French Franc	5.0770	4.9800	1.95%
Japanese Yen	128.10	127.10	0.79%

USD Per STU

Euro-Currency Interest Rates

Currency	24/7/92	31/7/92	1-Month (%)	3-Month (%)	1-Year (%)
U.S. Dollar	3.37	3.75	3.31	3.68	
Sterling Pound	10.12	10.25	10.06	10.31	
Deutsche Mark	9.68	9.68	9.68	9.75	
Swiss Franc	8.37	8.25	8.38	8.25	
French Franc	10.06	10.15	10.09	10.31	
Japanese Yen	4.46	4.03	4.06	3.81	

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.688	.670
Sterling Pound	1.2867	1.2931
Deutsche Mark	.4526	.4549
Swiss Franc	.5077	.5102
French Franc	.1339	.1346
Japanese Yen*	.5251	.5277
Dutch Guilder	.4013	.4033
Swedish Krona	.1246	.1252
Italian Lira*	.0598	.0601
Belgian Franc	.02197	.02208

* Per 100

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADING VOLUME	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN EXCHANGE BANK	2,221	1.650	1.640
THE JORDAN BANK	25,200	2.520	2.530
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	2,080	0.050	0.050
UNION BANK FOR SAVINGS & INVESTMENT	1,150	2.250	2.300
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	5,841	2.160	2.160
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT/OLD	123,367	1.120	1.120
JORDAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT/NEW	4,234	1.080	1.070
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	16,533	2.180	2.180
REIT JORDAN INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	238,950	1.540	1.510
JORDAN BANK	157	14.250	14.250
JORDAN EXCHANGE	47,470	113.500	113.500
JORDAN EXCHANGE	4,080	2.750	2.720
JORDAN EXCHANGE	14,760	2.440	2.440
JORDAN EXCHANGE	2,660	2.650	2.550
JORDAN EXCHANGE	378	1.920	1.890
JORDAN EXCHANGE	10,871	1.370	1.270
JORDAN EXCHANGE	109,246	4.240	4.370
JORDAN EXCHANGE	123,103	1.340	1.340
JORDAN EXCHANGE	2,240	2.370	2.250
JORDAN EXCHANGE	88,128	1.670	1.640
JORDAN EXCHANGE	540	0.270	0.270
JORDAN EXCHANGE	5,323	1.000	1.010
JORDAN EXCHANGE	9,263	0.950	0.950
JORDAN EXCHANGE	2,843	1.620	1.510
JORDAN EXCHANGE	480	2.460	2.460
JORDAN EXCHANGE	21,713	7.750	7.750
JORDAN EXCHANGE	13,921	9.350	9.350
JORDAN EXCHANGE	8,172	5.830	5.840
JORDAN EXCHANGE	26,180	22.000	22.000
JORDAN EXCHANGE	25,113	4.680	4.670
JORDAN EXCHANGE	3,375	6.750	6.750
JORDAN EXCHANGE	11,168	2.660	2.620
JORDAN EXCHANGE	123,103	1.340	1.340
JORDAN EXCHANGE	3,792	0.750	0.740
JORDAN EXCHANGE	1,162	4.480	4.480
JORDAN EXCHANGE	356,394	3.210	3.230
JORDAN EXCHANGE	1,260	0.950	0.950
JORDAN EXCHANGE	6,960	4.150	4.120
JORDAN EXCHANGE	27,850	13.350	13.350
JORDAN EXCHANGE	6,625	3.350	3.300
JORDAN EXCHANGE	163	1.630	1.630
JORDAN EXCHANGE	550	1.090	1.100
JORDAN EXCHANGE	15,400	2.980	2.800
JORDAN EXCHANGE	11,299	6.500	6.450
JORDAN EXCHANGE	37,089	3.510	3.460
JORDAN EXCHANGE	98,337	1.260	1.250
JORDAN EXCHANGE	7,418	0.580	0.570
JORDAN EXCHANGE	140,267	5.070	5.090
JORDAN EXCHANGE	88,101	2.280	2.240
JORDAN EXCHANGE	13,096	8.330	8.320

Russia, Iran discuss energy project

NICOSIA (AP) — Promotion of Tehran-Moscow ties and construction of new power stations in Iran were discussed in a meeting between Russian and Iranian officials. The Islamic Republic News Agency reported Sunday.

The news agency said Foyr Aven, Russia's minister of foreign economic ties, met Saturday in Tehran with Energy Minister Dijan Namdar Zanganeh.

"Necessary decisions were made on the implementation of the undertakings of the Russian companies which have contracts with Iran's Energy Ministry," the report said, giving no further details.

Mr. Aven led a delegation that arrived in Tehran Saturday on a two-day visit.

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Growth of Turkish economy slowed by 'weak determination'

ANKARA (R) — Turkey's economic policies are broadly correct, but it should implement them more rigorously, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said in an annual survey of the Turkish economy.

The survey, which was released on Monday, said Turkey had made important strides towards efficiency during the 1980s.

"It has not, however, fully reaped the benefit of this structural improvement because of weak determination in carrying out firm macro-economic policies," the OECD said.

The 24-nation, Paris-based group voiced approval for plans by Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel's coalition government to cut the Public Spending Borrow-

ing Requirement (PSBR) and reduce monetary financing of government deficits.

It said these factors and a projected slowdown in public sector wage rises should help allay inflationary pressures and lead to an easing in short- and long-term interest rates.

The budget forecast a cut in the PSBR to 8.8 per cent for 1992 from a peak of 12.6 per cent last year.

But official figures show the budget deficit widened in the first six months and the government has already burst through the budgeted ceiling of \$1.56 billion, later raised to \$1.91 billion, of Central Bank advances to finance the deficit.

By end-June, the Treasury had already drawn \$3.98 billion in

short-term advances from the Central Bank, the figures show.

The OECD said Turkey's economic growth would pick up this year after a sluggish 1991, but might slacken in 1993.

"The real Gross National Product (GNP) is projected to grow by about five per cent in 1992, decelerating to some 3.75 per cent in 1993," it said.

The government has set a 1992 growth target of 5.5 per cent in fixed prices after last year's 11-year low of 0.3 per cent.

The report said inflation might ease in the second half of 1992 and into 1993. Annual inflation dropped to 65.8 per cent in June from 69.9 per cent in May, mainly due to seasonal factors.

The OECD predicted inflation would be 68 per cent in 1992 and

55 per cent in 1993. Demirel pledged in November to slash it to 42 per cent in 1992 and below 10 per cent six months later.

The OECD forecast a 4.2 per cent growth in exports and 3.4 per cent in imports in 1992. It said exports would grow faster than imports next year.

Turkey is likely to more than double its current account surplus \$575 million this year because of narrowing trade deficits and an expected jump in tourism revenues, the OECD said. The surplus may rise to \$720 million in 1993, it added.

The report predicted that the reopening of Middle Eastern markets and improving trade ties with ex-Soviet republics could help Turkey's competitive edge in world trade.

German exporters protest ruling on Israeli boycott clause

BONN (R) — German exporters have criticised the government for banking contracts with Arab buyers that include an Israeli boycott clause, saying it would put them at a competitive disadvantage.

The export groups said such a ban should be enforced throughout the European Community (EC) so that they would not lose business to countries not prohibiting the anti-Israeli clause.

"Germany's lone act will lead inevitably to serious disadvantages for German exporters," said a statement issued jointly by the BGA Federation of German Wholesale and Foreign Traders and the BDEX Federation of German Exporters.

Last week, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's cabinet decided to stop German firms from signing contracts with anti-Israeli clauses when doing business with Arab companies.

The exporters' statement said medium-sized firms specialised in trade with the Middle East would be particularly hard hit as some countries were likely to respond with retaliation.

BGA said in April such a ban would only be acceptable if it were introduced throughout the EC or more widely.

Earlier this year, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher promised Israel to lobby for an EC-wide ban on an anti-boycott clause after German firms drew international criticism during the Gulf War for helping to arm Iraq prior to the war.

At least nine Arab states and Bangladesh require suppliers to agree to some kind of trade boycott against Israel.

Laws discouraging or barring exporters from signing anti-Israeli clauses have been implemented in the United States.

Yeltsin orders more oil to agriculture

MOSCOW (R) — President Boris Yeltsin has ordered Russian oil companies to allocate 40 per cent of their output, which they had earlier been allowed to keep for themselves, to help state farms harvest their crops.

ITAR-TASS News Agency said Yeltsin's decree was intended to remedy a worsening shortage of oil products which was threatening this year's harvest.

"Taking into account the prospects of a good harvest in several regions, including Altai and Orenburg, we considered it essential to take these steps," Oil Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told Russian Television.

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Privatisation scheme reflects imminent split of Czechoslovakia

PRAGUE (AP) — The second phase of coupon privatisation will continue separately in the Czech lands and Slovakia, reflecting the expected split of Czechoslovakia, according to newspaper reports.

About 8.6 million Czechoslovaks have bought special coupon books that made them eligible to participate in the first wave of coupon privatisation, an ambitious scheme of swift and effective transfer of state-owned enterprises into private hands.

Czechs and Slovaks could invest in any firm anywhere in the country in the first wave. But in the second phase of the privatisation scheme, they will be allowed to invest only in their own republic, the Mlada Fronta Dnes daily reported.

Under the coupon system, the Czechoslovak government divided state enterprises into two groups for privatisation in two consecutive waves.

The first wave may end late this year or early next year and comprises five rounds of investing. The property value of less attractive companies is to be progressively reduced each round until

all available companies are privatised.

Each coupon book cost the equivalent of \$35 is worth 1,000 points — the maximum a private citizen can invest under the coupon system.

Holdings can invest their points in any of 1,491 firms to be privatised in the first wave of coupon privatisation this year, regardless of the republic where the firm they have chosen is based.

About 72 per cent of investors have entrusted their points to 428 licensed investment funds. No changes are expected in the first wave of coupon privatisation. But the second wave will be carried out separately in the two republics, Mlada Fronta Dnes said.

Czech Minister of Privatisation Jiri Skalkicky made the disclosure after meeting his Slovak counterpart Lubomir Dolgos in Bratislava last week.

Before the second wave is launched, it will be necessary to define Czech and Slovak citizenship to determine who can invest coupons in Czech or Slovak property, Skalkicky said.

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The Small Of Fear
Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30
Bugs Bunny Show

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Azerbaijan storms out of Rome peace talks on Karabakh

ROME (R) — Azerbaijan Sunday stormed out of Rome talks aimed at ending the fighting in the former Soviet enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh after the territory's Armenian delegation was invited to address the meeting.

Chief Azeri negotiator Nadir Mekhtiev told Reuters the Italian chairman of the 11-nation talks had broken all the rules by addressing the enclave's Armenian leader as "the president of the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh."

"We have abandoned the negotiations and we are not going back until these games are over. We will leave Rome tomorrow," the Azeri delegate said.

The fourth attempt this year to negotiate agreement for a full-scale peace conference to open in the Belarussian capital of Minsk founded over the status of the territory's Armenian representatives.

The latest round of negotiations began Saturday but the Armenian community from the disputed enclave boycotted the

talks, insisting on being accorded a special status.

Mr. Mekhtiev said: "The chairman invited 'the president of the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh' to speak. This is against all the rules."

"All the Armenian community of Nagorno-Karabakh was entitled to was to attend the plenary session of the talks as observers."

The enclave's Armenian leaders proclaimed a republic last year but it has so far not won international recognition.

Azerbaijan apparently feared that Saturday's moves by the Italian chairman of the Rome talks would in effect amount to diplomatic recognition of the enclave as the newest member of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Meanwhile, Armenian fighters have moved into a key town in disputed Nagorno-Karabakh and engaged in fierce street fighting with Azeri forces which had held it since June, Russian Television reported Saturday.

It said Mardakert, the biggest

town in the north of the mountain enclave, had changed hands several times in recent days. More than 2,000 people have been killed in fighting between Armenians and Azeris in Nagorno-Karabakh since 1988.

ITAR-TASS News Agency said earlier that Karabakh Armenians had renewed pressure around Mardakert as part of a push to drive Azeri forces from the region, mainly populated by Armenians.

It quoted the Karabakh Armenians' defence headquarters as saying the operation began at dawn. On the previous day, it said, Armenians destroyed eight Azeri tanks and several artillery units.

The Azerbaijani Defence Ministry said one person was killed and seven were injured in Mardakert, Interfax News Agency reported.

Azerbaijani reports carried by Interfax, meanwhile, said Azerbaijani troops were approaching the strategic regional centre of Lachin and suffered seven fatalities.

The Armenians captured Lachin in May, opening a land route linking Armenia with Nagorno-Karabakh's capital of Stepanakert.

The Azerbaijani Defence Ministry also said that at least six people were killed and 16 injured in Armenian shelling of the towns of Kelbajar and Fizuli, close to Nagorno-Karabakh, Interfax reported.

The Russian News Agency NEGA quoted an appeal sent to Russian President Boris Yeltsin by the International Congress on Human Rights, acting within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

The document said Russian soldiers had been seen taking part in the Karabakh conflict on the Azeri side. It warned that the CSCE charter forbids the movement of weapons into regions where they can be used against the civilian population.

NEGA said the document asked Russia's government to investigate the report and make a statement.

Muslims advance against Serbs around Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian government forces Saturday claimed they had pushed northwest out of the city centre, fraying the Serbian noose that has bound the Bosnian capital for months.

U.N. officials criticised what they called a "dirty war" that they said was jeopardising their peacekeeping units.

Central Sarajevo was relatively quiet most of Saturday after two days of heavy fighting, although shelling resumed briefly later in the evening. Occasional shelling, anti-aircraft and heavy machine-gun fire could be heard coming from the hills northwest of the city, the site of the new fighting. A land convoy that was to ferry 50 orphans out of Sarajevo appeared stalled, and it was not clear when the journey could begin.

Bosnian radio reported government forces advanced to Vogosca, northwest of Sarajevo, surrounded Ilijas, a Serb-held town farther northwest and taken Tmovo to the south. Vogosca separates Sarajevo from Muslim forces in Visoko and Zenica.

Maj. Dervo Harbinja, a senior

Sarajevo defence official, told reporters territorial forces had Ilijas hemmed in on three sides.

"We have managed to hold the territory we captured yesterday," Maj Harbinja said. "Overnight, we advanced a little way towards Vogosca, but are now concentrating on consolidating our positions."

Bosnian government officials, who have been pressing the international community to intervene militarily, have become increasingly desperate in recent weeks as it has become clear that no help is coming.

Their claims of battlefield success could not be independently verified. The Belgrade-based Tanjug News Agency quoted Bosnian Serb sources as saying four Serb soldiers were killed and three wounded in the fighting overnight near Tmovo.

But it said Tmovo was still in Serb hands, despite a reported siege by more than 2,000 Territorial Defence Forces that continued Saturday on the town 40 kilometres (25 miles) south of Sarajevo.

Fighting was also reported in several other Bosnian towns, in-

cluding one along the Sava River border with Croatia.

Tanjug said 150 soldiers and civilians had died since the heaviest of recent fighting began near Sarajevo. Croatian Radio said 43 people had been killed and 506 wounded in fighting throughout Bosnia over the last 24 hours. Most of the casualties were in Sarajevo, it said.

In all, more than 7,500 people have died since Bosnia's Muslims and Croats voted for independence from Serb-led Yugoslavia on Feb. 29.

U.N. spokesman Mik Magnusson criticised Territorial Forces for endangering peacekeepers by setting up weapons too close to their monitoring positions.

On Friday, six newly arrived Ukrainian peacekeepers were injured when a mortar hit the entrance to their bunker northwest of Sarajevo. Two suffered severe head injuries and were evacuated by a U.S. plane to Frankfurt, Germany, Mr. Magnusson said.

Government forces had placed two recoilless rifle positions 15 metres away from the site, in violation of an agreement that no weapons be placed within 500

metres, Mr. Magnusson said. It was possible the monitoring station was hit by return Serb fire, he added.

Government forces also had two tanks positioned just outside U.N. headquarters, Mr. Magnusson said, and mortars only 200 metres away from other U.N. positions in the city.

"That's just dirty war, and we have protested," Mr. Magnusson said. A protest was also lodged with the Serbs for firing back at well-marked U.N. positions, he added.

"There's blame all round," Mr. Magnusson said. "There are times when our observers can't observe because it's too dangerous — that happened several times yesterday."

As calls were heard abroad for foreign military action, the chief of the Yugoslav Armed Forces said Yugoslavs would defend themselves "to the last man" against any foreign intervention on their territory.

Muslim forces suffered heavy casualties in attempts to capture strategic hills used by Serb gun batteries to pour shellfire on Sarajevo for four months.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Snipers kill 2 orphans in Sarajevo

SARAJEVO (AP) — A bus carrying 50 orphans out of Sarajevo was hit by heavy machine-gun fire Saturday killing a 2-year-old girl and a 1-year-old boy, the orphanage said. The bus was driving east out of Sarajevo on a road known as "sniper alley" when it was fired upon by anti-aircraft guns, said Dusko Tomic, director of the Medjasi Children's Embassy Charity. "It's an absolute catastrophe. No other kids were wounded, but they were all screaming," Mr. Tomic said. There was no word on who hit the bus. The road is frequently targeted by Serb snipers, but U.N. officials said the Serb nationalists were battling the mostly Muslim Bosnian government forces in the area at the time. The children had been waiting for six days to be evacuated to an orphanage in Bavaria, southern Germany. They were unable to fly out because the Sarajevo Airport has been mostly closed for several days by heavy fighting.

Mexican party tries to regain balance

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's ruling party, coming off an historic loss in a governor's race, faces another strong threat in the state of Durango. Local elections in another state, Baja California, will give the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) an experience it has never had in its 63 years: It will run as the statewide opposition. Like virtually all Mexican opposition parties, it is claiming fraud. Leaders of the party claim they will sweep all five governor's races Sunday — a return to business as usual for the party that has dominated Mexico since the 1910-1920 revolution. Winning, however, is no longer enough. PRI leaders want to display a clean win.

Rome names new foreign minister

ROME (R) — Prime Minister Giuliano Amato named former Premier Emilio Colombo as foreign minister, swiftly pulling Italy's embattled government away from a political crisis. The appointment of the 72-year-old Colombo, widely respected for his European Community credentials, gave another boost to Mr. Amato's credibility after his four-party coalition won a major accord to end automatic wage indexation Friday. The resignation of Christian Democrat Vincenzo Scotti as foreign minister in a party row Wednesday had badly rocked Mr. Amato's month-old government, already struggling to cut inflation and reduce the budget deficit. Euro-MP Colombo, of the dominant Christian Democrats, was sworn in by President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro as foreign minister. It is the sixth time he holds the post and his 21st ministerial appointment.

Astronauts deploy European satellite

HOUSTON (R) — Astronauts aboard the space shuttle Atlantis deployed the European Space Agency (ESA) satellite Sunday after scientists solved communication problems that had delayed its launch.

Greek parliament approves treaty

ATHENS (AP) — Parliament has overwhelmingly ratified the embattled Maastricht Treaty on European unity, making Greece the third European Community (EC) member to approve the accord. Political leaders praised the vote but warned Greece will have to crack down on inflation, government debt and tax evasion if the nation is to become an equal partner in the trading bloc. "Greece will benefit, but so will the attempt toward European unification. The road ahead is hard," Premier Constantine Mitsotakis said after the treaty was ratified in a midnight vote Friday. The vote provided another boost to a treaty that has been in trouble since voters in Denmark rejected the treaty in June. All 12 EC members are to ratify the plan for it to take effect early next year. The accord would establish common foreign and security policies and a single currency, by 1999 in what is the world's largest trading bloc. But many Europeans oppose a federal European government that could limit their countries' sovereignty.

U.N. team arrives in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A team of United Nations observers arrived to try to help prevent violence when the African National Congress (ANC) launches a national strike Monday. Police Sunday reported nine deaths in nationwide political violence, including seven black men killed in an attack on a squatter camp near Johannesburg. The ANC and its allies called for the two-day strike after breaking off political talks with the government over the chronic violence and a stalemate on how to shift from white minority rule to a multiracial democracy. Intended to galvanise opposition forces and gain concessions from the government, the strike and other protests planned this week have instead drawn attention to divisions among black groups and raised tension throughout the country. Small turnouts at protests held in recent weeks indicate general indifference toward the ANC's mass action campaign, and it was unclear how widely the national stayaway was observed.

Pakistan detains Koran-reading women

KARACHI (R) — Pakistani police detained at least 40 women in Karachi Saturday while they were reading the Koran and praying for their leader, a spokesman for their Mohajir National Movement (MQM) party said. MQM spokesman Osama Qadri said the police baton-charged some 300 assembled women and detained 40 of them. No police comment was immediately available. He said the women were reading the Koran and praying for Altaf Hussain, the leader of the MQM which has been targeted by authorities in a current army-led crackdown on crime in the southern province of Sind, of which Karachi is the capital. Mr. Hussain is in London for medical treatment.

Khmer Rouge will restart war — minister

PHNOM PENH (R) — The Khmer Rouge fully intend to restart their guerrilla war in Cambodia, the only question is when, Phnom Penh's foreign minister said. "The Khmer Rouge have never changed their main objective — to take over by any means," Hor Namhong told reporters. Even if the Maoists returned to the U.N.-backed peace process, he said, this would only delay the resumption of the guerrilla war that began in 1978 when the Vietnamese invaded to drive them from power. The Khmer Rouge balked at the part of the peace plan that called on them to gather into U.N. camps ahead of disarmament. They also demand the dismantling of the Phnom Penh government's cabinet and legislature and have said the United Nations must affirm that there are no more Vietnamese troops in the country.

Clinton blasts Bush as the 'failed president'

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Bill Clinton has called President George Bush that "failed president of a big country" as he sought to hunt expected Republican attacks on him as a "failed governor from a small state."

More than a dozen of Mr. Clinton's fellow Democratic governors stood with the Democratic presidential nominee at the news conference as he delivered what they called a pre-emptive strike against expected Republican television ads. The news conference was held outside a national governors meeting in Delle Meade, New Jersey.

Republicans have been hitting the "failed governor" theme for months and the Democrats are expecting the Bush campaign to use it, perhaps this week as it launches its television advertising.

The Bush campaign is mum on where the ads will appear and when, but aides have already said in letters to the three major networks that the 30- and 60-second spots will appear only on shows that are in keeping with the campaign's family values theme.

New York Gov. Mario Cuomo called the Republican theme an "exercise in evasion." He said the Bush team was trying to avoid debate on the economy.

Mr. Clinton defended his record as governor, noting that Arkansas has always been one of the poorest states. But he said his state was headed in the right direction and added that the same could not be said for the country. Concerning the Republican theme, the Democratic nominee said sharply, "well, I think I'm running against a failed president of a big country."

His appearance with the governors Saturday capped a free-for-all week of sniping with the rival presidential camp over everything from defence cuts to welfare reform.

Mr. Clinton mostly kept up a drumbeat about Mr. Bush's ability to be trusted, staging carefully scripted events to remind voters of the president's "broken promises" and matters that raise questions about his judgement.

For example Friday in St. Louis, Mr. Clinton told a black lawyers' group that he would only choose minority candidates for the Supreme Court if they were truly qualified.

Though Clarence Thomas wasn't mentioned by name, Mr. Clinton clearly meant to raise questions about Mr. Bush's judgement.

Meanwhile, Mr. Bush's wife, Barbara, said in an interview that she expects her husband to be a target for personal attacks during the campaign, but hopes the attacks will not extend to their children.

Presidential candidates are being "subjected to some very ugly things," and it's getting worse, she said in a television interview.

The first lady as interviewed by C-SPAN, the public affairs television network, for its "Road to the White House" series.

"Our children have been exceptionally good," she said. "That doesn't mean that people don't try to find things and smear them. And they have. I don't like that very much."

One of the Bushes' four sons, Neil, figured in a bank scandal and has been in the spotlight.

Mrs. Bush was displaced by a less-than-flattering profile in the magazine Vanity Fair. The article said that despite her image as a loving grandmotherly type, Barbara Bush is feared by those around her because of her sarcastic and even sometimes mean way of dealing with people.

"I thought it was very hurtful," she said. "I thought it twisted things."

President Bush, trailing badly in his bid for a second term, promised Friday to "roll up my sleeves and go after" the Democratic ticket following the Republican national convention later in August.

Mr. Bush made the comments as he wound up a quick campaign trip to California, and as a new poll confirmed that he faces a long uphill battle in the politically important state.

Although he has stepped up his campaigning recently, the president has repeatedly said he would hold off on a full-blown campaign schedule until after the Aug. 17-20 convention in Houston so he could concentrate on running the country.

But that strategy has been criticised both inside and outside the Bush campaign as the president has fallen further behind Democratic presidential nominee Bill Clinton.

COLUMN

Michael Jackson cancels concert at 11th hour

LONDON (AP) — Michael Jackson became ill and cancelled his appearance at a sold out Saturday night concert 40 minutes before he was to have gone on stage, his spokesman said. "He has virus-type symptoms and on the recommendation of doctors it was decided his performance would be cancelled tonight," said Bob Jones, spokesman for Jackson's MJJ Productions. Jackson complained of dizziness, Mr. Jones said. Jackson performed the first two of five sold-out performances last week at the 72,000-plus Wembley Stadium. There was no word on whether he would play the two remaining shows as scheduled. The Saturday evening show began as scheduled at 6:15 p.m. with performances by support acts Kris Kross and Rosala. Jackson cancelled about 40 minutes before his scheduled appearance at 8:10 p.m., a Wembley spokesman said. After being told the show was off, the crowd left without incident, police said.

Mixed-race woman named Miss South Africa

SUN CITY, South Africa (AP) — A mixed-race woman was named Miss South Africa, the first time a non-white has won the title in 40 years of the competition. Amy Kleinhans, 24, a model from Cape Town who finished second in the contest last year, defeated 11 other finalists for the title. The crowd of 7,000 at the pageant loudly cheered the selection. The first runner-up, Augustine Masilela of the Soweto black township, is black. In the weeks before the contest, predictions that Miss Kleinhans would win evoked charges that politics pervaded the competition. But Miss Kleinhans, who is coloured or of mixed-race ancestry, said she won on merit. "The controversy that surrounded me because of my skin colour means nothing," she said. "I will ignore it and be a great ambassador for South Africa." Vanessa Chemaly, an organizer of the event, said there was "no question of any tokenism or favouritism." "The competition was run fairly and the winner was chosen on merit," she said.

Treasures found in the Adriatic

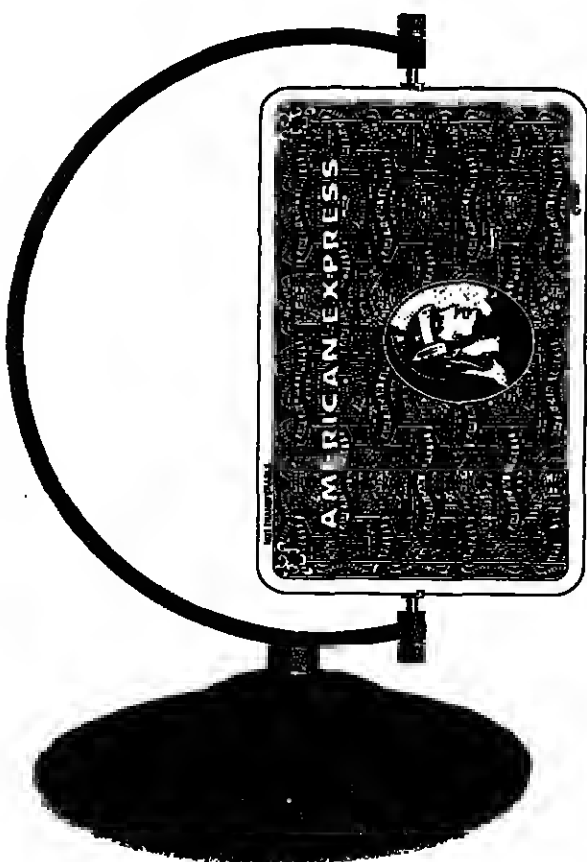
BRINDISI, Italy (AP) — A bearded bronze head, two arms, and a left foot believed to be parts of 4th century B.C. Greek statues have been pulled from the depths of the Adriatic, the most exciting underwater discovery in Italy since the magnificent Riace bronzes were found in 1972. Underwater archaeologists using metal detectors on the sea bottom off the coast of Puglia, just north of Brindisi, said it appeared more metal was there to be dug up. The bronze parts, including a partial head closely resembling the pair of nude bronze statues of two males found off the Calabrian coast in 1972, were discovered a few days earlier by amateur archaeologists. Lucky for the state one of the divers was a paramilitary police officer. Italy's waters are believed to be ripe for picking by dishonest divers who don't report archaeological finds. Carabinieri Police boats were guarding the area of the new find to discourage any sea pirates.

Bette Midler faces \$5 million suit

LOS ANGELES (R) — Entertainer Martha Raye filed a \$5 million suit against Bette Midler and 20th Century Fox Film Corp., accusing the singer-actress of stealing her life story for the movie *For The Boys*. The big-budget film, which starred Midler and James Caan, was released last year to poor box-office results and recently came out on videotape. In the suit filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, Raye said she registered a screen treatment of the story with the Writers Guild of America in 1981. She alleged that she took the screen treatment to Fox and offered it for \$1 million plus a percentage of the profits but that she had been "turned down." According to the suit, Raye met Midler in 1985. Midler kept a copy of the manuscript but later claimed to have lost interest in producing a film based on it. Raye, 75, alleges that shortly thereafter, Midler began production on *For The Boys*, a movie about singers who entertained U.S. troops during World War II. Raye, confined to a wheelchair following a 1990 stroke, was a popular performer on the United Services Organisation (USO) circuit in World War II and the Vietnam War.

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